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# Herald internation

Cribune.

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London, Thursday, February 12, 1998

No. 35,753

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By Brian Knowlton

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A cloud of investigations and alle-

pen And the first state of the work with the period of the state of the with the with the state of the with the with the state of the with the wit Winte House as Lewis Fox, a former miformed Secret Service agent, said he once guarded the Oval Office for 40 minutes while the president and Monica Lewinsky, a White House intern at the time, were inside alone.

But in a pattern of vigorous coun-

But in a pattern of vigorous counleast that is becoming routine, a
Clinton ally, the political consultant
James Carville, said the former agent's account had holes in it. He added, "All that we know, if this man's memory is correct, is that she didn't come out the door that he let her in." (Page 3)

> President races off a metaphorical cliff, but stays airborne. Page 3.

Ms. Lewinsky's mother, Marcia

by Sandra highlight and Franting Lewis, returned Wednesday for a second day of testimony before a grand jury here investigating the allegations that Mr. Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky and then urged her to deny it

Found for in a sworn affidavit. A much-anticipated appearance be-fore the grand jury by the former intern, scheduled for Thursday, now appears to have been delayed a second time by

men we agreement with the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr. The reason was unclear. Mr. Clinton spoke Wednesday at the - State Department about NATO enlarge issue. He has declined to address details of the Lewinsky case, citing his law-

yers' advice. Mrs. Clinton, however, has been a highly visible defender and is among her husband's most stalwart advocates since reports emerged of the alleged affair, which have left the White House constantly on the defensive.

Responding Wednesday to gently worded questions from a small group of reporters, Mrs. Clinton said she expected the storm of attention to recede slowly.

"I don't anticipate that this will evaporate," she said. "But I anticipate it will slowly dissipate over time under the weight of its own insubstantiality."

She added that the sharp rise in opinion poll support for her husband since the scandal exploded did not surprise her. "Americans are smart, fairminded, savvy people," she said.

She added, "We've already seen how

much of this charge and countercharge does not withstand scrutiny." Mrs. Clinton said her husband was bearing up well under the allegations

See CLINTON, Page 6



Picabo Street flying over the final jump Wednesday to win the Super-G.

## U.S. Skier on the Mend Finds Super-Giant Gold

By Michael Wilbon Washington Post Service

NAGANO, Japan - It's not just that the so-called experts did not expect Picabo Street to ski well enough to win a medal at these Winter Olympic Games. Neither did she.

Street, an American whose career has been full of surprises, pulled off perhaps the biggest surprise through five days of competition here when she won the Olympic gold medal in the women's super-giant slalom.

Street, from Sun Valley, Idaho, won a silver medal in the women's downhill in the 1994 Olympics but missed much of the 1997 season because of a knee in-

This week was the first time she had even raced this course because she missed the '97 World Cup downhill on the same slopes in Hakuba while recovering from that injury. A concussion she suffered on Jan. 31 while racing in Sweden in preparation for these Games left her feeling "fuzzy" as recently as

She didn't start well on what turned out to be her gold-medal run, but used it to her advantage.

'I made a mistake about midway

See STREET, Page 20

# Clinton Rebuffs Iraqi Offer Of Limited UN Inspections

The Drums of War

By Steven Erlanger

WASHINGTON - For all the talk of "time running out." the Clinton administration has been beating the drums of war very slowly in the Iraq crisis, producing what can seem like a long, even tortuous, exercise in confusing the American public.

But there are reasons for the administration's deliberate pace, senior U.S. and NATO-country diplomats say. First, the

#### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

military force for an effective strike must still be put into place and that will take at least another week.

Most important, however, it is the credible threat of force that traditionally produces diplomatic progress. Some administration officials say the chances for a diplomatic solution have been increasing, however slightly, as the prospect of military action comes closer.

"We really want a diplomatic solution," a senior American official said. "We will give a chance to play out

diplomacy, while at the same time we position our forces to take action. No one is rushing into this."

Military action entails higher risks, and is no guarantee that Saddam Hussein will not be able to threaten his neighbors with weapons of mass destruction, which has been the administration's goal. Continual and unconditional inspections would do a better job, and are the core demand for any

diplomatic settlement. Military force has other pitfalls as well. A coalition against Iraq is harder than ever to build. The Gulf War ended seven years ago, the Middle East peace process is stagnating and Iraq

has done nothing recently as egregious as invading Kuwait.
The task of coalition-building is made even more difficult
by conservative Arab states like Saudi Arabia, whose leaders detest Mr. Saddam but recognize the appeal of his challenge to Washington and Israel among the wider Arab population. Private support coupled with public equivocating leaves the United States looking more isolated in its policy than it

actually is, administration officials insist. The visible daily buildup of American and British preparations for war in the Gulf, along with new support from

See PACE, Page 6

#### Forces Almost in Place

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton, effectively ejecting another Iraqi effort to defuse the crisis by allowing UN inspectors into restricted areas under certain conditions, said Wednesday that President Saddam Hussein could not put limits on UN inspections of suspected weapons sites.

"He must let the weapons inspectors back with full and free access to all suspect sites," Mr. Clinton said. "If he will not

act, we must be prepared to do so."

Mr. Clinton's remarks, couched in careful language that contrasted with more bellicose statements by U.S. officials in recent weeks, appeared to rebuff an offer made earlier Wednesday by the Iraqi deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz, to open eight Iraqi presidential palaces to inspections but only under

the supervision of the UN Security Council. The U.S. regional commander said the forces in the Gulf vould be ready to strike in about a week, and defense officials in Washington said 19 more attack planes and bombers would

fly there from U.S. bases in the next two days. Iraq offered to open eight "presidential sites" for inspection, but only under the supervision of representatives of the UN Security Council - and not to the regular inspectors of the UN Special Commission, or Unscorn, whom it calls

'We all hope we can avoid the use of force, but let's face it, in the end that is up to Saddam Hussein." Mr. Clinton said in a speech at the State Department.

Earlier, the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, said: "The UN Special Commission needs free and unfettered access to those sites that it needs to investigate to determine what capacity Iraq has or could have to weapons of mass

He said to reporters: "It's not up to Iraq to set the conditions for those inspections. It's up to the United Nations to do the work as the United Nations sees fit."

The Iraqi foreign minister, Mohammed Said Sahhaf, disclosed details of the proposal during a meeting with reporters in Cairo. The plan, agreed to with Russian mediators, also was later set out by Mr. Aziz in an interview with CNN.

See IRAQ, Page 6

What to do about Saddam? News Analysis, Page 6.

Olga Rappaport following the flag-draped coffin of her brother, Nikolai.

#### Fallen Hero's Misery Shames Israel Immigrant Soldier's Poverty Came to Light Only After He Was Killed The story of the quiet immigrant lated, in a sea of purple army berets of from Russia who found a home in an the Givati unit, "Sima Kadmon wrote By Serge Schmemann New York Times Service

TEL HASHOMER, Israel -- Fighting a losing battle against sobs along-side the coffin of her fallen brother, Olga Rappaport addressed his com-rades in Russian: "He was very happy to serve in your army. I want all of you to make it home alive. Don't kill your parents, your brothers and sisters.

The slight, 22-year-old woman stopped there, unable to go on. When her words returned in Hebrew, many of the purple-bereted combat soldiers, some of them fresh from the combat zone of southern Lebanon, swallowed

Until Sergeant Nikolai Rappaport was killed by a blast of Hezbollah shrapnel in the neck on Saturday, none of them knew that the 23-year-old recent Russian immigrant had this sister, or that his father, Ilya, 62, had been unemployed for months, or that they lived in poverty in a tiny room in a tin-roofed storehouse in the seedy Shapira district of Tel Aviv.

Israeli combat unit and volunteered for every patrol — including the one that killed him — while his family wrestled with privation and misery, sent a wave of shame through the army and the

That was especially so when Ilya Rappaport said he would take Nikolai's body back to his native Krasnodar, in the northern Caucasus. so his mother could be at the burial.

Though neither the father nor the sister uttered a word of complaint, there was a sense, captured in eulogies and press commentaries, that Israel had failed these people.

"Now, after his death, everyone in Israel has seen the single room where he, his father and his sister lived - and we are ashamed." The Jerusalem Post said in an editorial. "The situation of this one grieving family shines a spotlight on the difficulties that remain for many new immigrants from the former Soviet Union."

"Two foreigners stood there, iso-

the Givati unit, Sima Kadmon wrote in Ma'ariv, another daily. "Even his death failed to incorporate them in our

Unspoken at the funeral, but understood by all present, was the fact that had Ilya Rappaport decided to have the funeral in Israel, his son would have been buried outside the cemetery walls, because by the Orthodox Jewish law in force, he was not Jewish, since his mother was not.

The story of the Rappaports seemed to remind Israelis how little they know about the travails and lives of the hundreds of thousands of Russian Jews who have come in the last decade, especially those like Ilya Rappaport who have been too old or too limited in their training to integrate themselves into the brash, fast-paced Israeli life.

'We stand here embarrassed that we did not see, did not hear, did not ask and did not know how difficult it was for your family," said Sergeant Rappa-

See ISRAEL, Page 6

## Has America Gone Giddy Over the Stock Market?

By Edward Wyatt
New York Times Service

NEW YORK - After three years of apidly rising stock prices, American bouseholds have more of their fortunes invested in the stock market than at any time in the past 50 years — and perhaps

Even that traditionally most-prized possession of Americans, the home, has taken a back seat to stocks for the first time in three decades. An analysis by The New York Times

made up 28 percent of American household wealth - a measure that includes houses, cars and other tangible assets as well as financial assets — at the end of September, the most recent period for which data are available. Stocks accounted for 43 percent of financial as-sets, which include bank accounts, mu-

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that funds and securities. Those numbers have more than doubled since 1990.

The implications of this profound growth in stock exposure are many. The size of their paychecks aside, many Americans are feeling richer as the value of their stock holdings rises.

But with so much in stocks, a sharp market decline could seriously erode the financial well-being of Americans, even if their money is largely tied up in longterm retirement plans. In years past, the biggest asset of most Americans was the home, making the real-estate market far more important than the stock market in personal finance.

Where skyrocketing home prices once provided reassurance to the middle class, soaring stock portfolios now do. But stock prices are subject to much wider

short-term swings than home values.
The extra wealth from stock portfolios also has encouraged Americans to spend more and save less. The Commerce Department reported last week that savings fell last year to 3.8 percent of disposable income, the lowest level in 58 years. Moreover, whatever money Americans do set aside as savings, they increasingly allocate to stocks rather than to more conservative investments. That beightened interest accounts for about a third of the increase in stocks' share of wealth, with the other two-thirds coming from the rise in share prices. The timing has been good of late.

annually the past three years. "It's been jammed down their throats that they See INVESTORS, Page 6

Stocks have been gaining 30 percent

#### AGENDA

#### U.S. Soccer Team Pulls Off Miracle

Preki Radosavljevic's goal midway through the second half gave the United States one of its greatest soccer victories ever Tuesday night, a 1-0 triumph over defending World Cup champion Brazil at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Inserted into the Concacaf Gold Cup semifinal against Brazil in the 60th minute, Radosavljevic made his first touch a historic one. It was the U.S. team's first victory over Brazil in nine meetings, And Radosavljevic's goai was the first for the United States against Brazil in 68 years. Page 18.

Crossword...

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Sports.	P	ages 18-2
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## Jakarta's Plan To Peg Rupiah Powers a Rally **Across Region**

By Thomas Crampton International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK - Despite the opposition of the World Bank and the doubts of many economists, Indonesia confirmed Wednesday that it intended to stabilize its battered currency by peg-

ging it at a fixed rate. The announcement that Indonesia would move to a system known as a currency board added momentum to a three-day rally of Asia's beleaguered

Economists warned, however, that the currencies would almost certainly retreat once again as the region heads into the next phase of economic turmoil.

"We are now in the closing pages of Chapter 1 of this crisis," said Ian Lee, chief economist at Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. "The worst of the liquidity crisis is over, and we are entering Chapter 2: economic adjust-

Mr. Lee and other economists said the next phase would be painful and in-

 Sharp falls in economic growth and a slew of corporate bankruptcies. • Rising mass unemployment and the threat of increased social unrest.

 High inflation. · Continued concern about a competitive devaluation of China's cur-



Policemen in Jakarta blocking a protest against high prices Wednesday.

rency, the yuan, which could set many crisis has been engineered to smash our currencies in Asia tumbling anew.

"This is a false dawn, the economic and political fundamentals are just not supportive of this rally," Mr. Lee said, adding that he believed the currencies would not sustain their current level for

more than a week. "There is a lot of euphoria, and the risk is that this new confidence starts to live on expectations of change rather than real change," said Bernhard Esch-weiler, head of economic research for Asia at J.P. Morgan. "Before we get any recovery we need to have some very serious finance sector reform."

In Indonesia, meanwhile, President Suharto blamed a "plot" by unnamed enemies seeking to destroy Indonesia's economy for the rupiah's fall.

'There are signs that this monetary

economic development of the past 30 years," he said. (Page 4) On Wednesday, the rupiah made a 6

percent gain against the dollar on top of the 30 percent surge it made a day earlier to close at 7,020 rupiah to the dollar. The gains came as Indonesia's fi-nance minister, Mar'ie Muhammad,

the supporting frameworks, including the regulations" for a currency board that would peg the rupiah to the dollar. Other regional currencies also rose, including the Thai baht, which surged nearly 9 percent to 41.75 baht to the dollar, the Malaysian ringgit, which

confirmed that Jakarta was "preparing

jumped almost 5 percent to a three-month high of 3.38 ringgit to the dollar, See JAKARTA, Page 6

## Economic Trauma Plagues Indonesian Hospitals

By Keith B. Richburg Washington Post Service

PAG

AKARTA — At the Cipto Mangunkusumo Central Hospital here, doctors found they no longer could afford the specially treated plastic bags that hold blood for transfusions. So the hospital director asked staff members to scour local markets for old-fashioned milk bottles that could be washed out and used instead.

In the hospital's operating rooms, too, frugality is the watchword: Expensive imported thread is out, catgut is in. And surgeons are being told to make more economical use of the thread when stitching up a patient.

"We have to use less expensive materials and supplies," said Hermansyur Kartowisastro, the hospital's deputy director for medical care. "We are also asking the surgeons not to use so much."

State-run hospitals such as this sprawling facility — one of the largest in the Indonesian capital — are searching for ways to tighten their belts and adjust to the new reality.

They also are finding ways to cut costs in the kidney dialysis ward. The \$10 artificial kidney tubes no longer are thrown away after each treatment but are rinsed and reused as many as eight times for the same patient.

Ahmad Djojosugito, the hospital director, refers to these cost-saving measures as "medical nationalism," his response to what is rapidly becoming a health-care crisis in the

Indonesia is struggling to reverse a debilitating economic crisis that has seen its currency lose at least 70 percent of its foreign-

exchange value since summer and the price of imported goods - including medical supplies, equipment and drugs - soar beyond reach. The economic disruption has critically infected the health-care system, with the stocks of some medicines running low and some local pharmaceutical companies suspending pro-

"With some creativity, we can overcome the problem," Mr. Ahmad said. "We have to

One innovation is employed when a patient first enters the examining room. Younger doctors — trained in the recent years of Indonesian affluence - became accustomed to ordering a battery of tests and X-rays before making a diagnosis. Now they are instructed to be very selective in the tests they order and to take only those X-rays that are essential.

Because the hospital is passing on more costs to patients, Mr. Ahmad has instituted several "value packages" of tests and X-rays at reduced prices — an idea he credits to the McDonald's restaurant chain. "It's like the advertisement for McDonald's on television,

he said. "We have value packs, too."
For Mr. Ahmad, such belt-tightening is nothing new; he was trained as a physician during indonesia's leaner times, when supplies were short and hospitals made do on barebones budgets. "We have to return to the difficulties we had

in the 1960s and '70s," he said. For intravenous feeding and blood transfusions, he said, "I remember using the old bottle with the tubing. I had to rinse it out and reuse it. Now we have to go back to that again."

generic brand drugs. The problems here at Cipto Mangunkusumo

Hospital — and the search for creative ways to cut costs — have become commonplace across | There, Naomi, the assistant manthe country. Last week, the English-language Jakarta Post reported that Dr. Sutomo Hospital, a large public facility in Surubaja in eastern Java, was setting up a center for tra-ditional medicine as a way to combat the rising cost of imported drugs.

Earlier local newspaper reports said four people had died on the island of Bali in January because they could not continue their expensive kidney dialysis treatments.

Here in Jakarta, Pudji Rahardjo, a physician who runs Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital's dialysis ward, said the cost of one five-hour treatment had shot up to about 500,000 rupiah (\$52) from 150,000 rupiah — all because the cost of imported materials had risen due to the rupiah's plunge. Regular patients complained vigorously about the cost, he said, but most have no alternative because they depend on the weekly treatment to survive.

HE BIGGEST PROBLEM, health workers say, is the high cost of medicine - chiefly imported drugs, but also locally manufactured medicines made with some imported raw materials. At the Medica pharmacy in the center of Jakarta, Ane, the assistant manager, said she had seen the prices for most drugs double since the economic crisis began. She said regular customers still bought the medicines they needed but "little by little" instead of in large quantities. For those who can no longer afford their usual medicine, Miss Ane sells them cheaper

The situation is the same at the nearby Aries

ager, said the price of one common antibiotic, amoxycillin, had jumped to 1,000 rupiah per tablet from 400 rupiah. A container of Celestamine, an allergy cream, costs 19,000 rupiah, up from 7,000.

Endang Suherman, a high school teacher with two young children, was waiting just outside the pharmacy of Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital, where his father was receiving emergency treatment for an asthma attack. He had just purchased his father's usual medicine, which used to cost 10,000 rupiah but now costs twice that amount. He also needed to buy a syringe, but the hospital pharmacy was sold out.
"It's extremely expensive," he

said. "My father is on a pension. I'm just a civil servant with a govemment salary.

The president of the World Bank, James Wolfensohn, amounced durlending agency would be providing

extra funding to help Indonesia purchase drugs and basic medical supplies for its public hos-pitals. Mr. Wolfensohn said the more than 200 indonesian pharmaceutical companies rely on imports for 90 percent of their materials, and he called the problem critical.

Health Minister Sujudi said Monday that the government would begin importing the raw materials needed to make generic medicines, as well as other medical supplies, at a sub-



Dialysis at Cipto Mangunkusumo, where patients ing a visit here last week that the use the same artificial kidney tube up to eight times.

sidized exchange rate. Mr. Sujudi said Indonesia had enough medicine in stock to last just four months, and enough raw materials for ust two months.

For doctors trying to cope with the crisis, the help cannot come soon enough.

"It's hard," said Kartowisastro, Cipto Mangunkusumo's deputy director. "It's hard. We are optimistic. But we don't know for how

## Thousands Are Trapped In Sierra Leone Fighting

1,400 Sail to Guinea, but Many Can't Escape

GENEVA — Thousands of civilians

Cross spokesman said Wednesday. About 1,400 people have fled to the guerrillas. Guinean capital, Conakry, aboard small boats, braving a 10-to-12-bour crossing, from Britain, Sierra Leone is one of the Refugees.

more wanted to flee to Conakry, which lies about 150 kilometers to the north-

batants not to fire blindly or to target Mr. Kabbah by April. civilians, or use them for any military

The refugee agency spokesman said many people wanted to flee Freetown but could not. "Whether it's insecurity or lack of boats, we don't know," Mr.

Stromberg said.

The refugee agency has set up an intake center at Forecariah, Guinea, about an hour from Conakry, with a

capacity for 15,000 to 20,000 refugees. The Nigerian-led intervention forces seeking to overthrow the military junta in Freetown pledged two weeks ago not to fire on Red Cross facilities, where 68 people are being treated for injuries.

At least 50 people were reported killed in the fighting in Freetown, and another 50 were drowned in a boat that capsized as they tried to flee, the police to the north of the capital said.

#### A Determined Nigeria

James Rupert of The Washington Post reported earlier from Abidjan, Ivory Nigerian troops and Sierra Leonean

tribal militias pressed a seventh day of attacks on Sierra Leone's military government Wednesday in their most determined effort so far to topple the Nine months after the Sierra Leonean

military overthrew President Ahmad Te- warplane, presumed to be Nigerian, jan Kabbah, Nigeria appears to have bombed the main government TV and brushed aside the preference of other radio transmitter Monday, leaving the

West African states for continued diplomatic efforts to restore civilian rule. are trapped in the Sierra Leonean capital, Nigerian troops, who are in Sierra Leone Freetown, a peninsular city cut off from as part of the West African peacekeeping the mainland by fighting between the junta and Nigerian-led forces, a Red have been trading artillery barrages and rifle fire with Sierra Leone troops and

according to Paul Stromberg, a spokes-man for the UN High Commissioner for troops deposed Mr. Kabbah and formed world's poorest nations. Last May, a coalition military government with Arriving refugees said that thousands their erstwhile enemies, a rebel force

west of Freetown along the West African by Nigeria and backed by international sanctions against the junta, brokered an Shells have hit residential areas in agreement under which the military gov-Freetown despite repeated pleas to com- ernment promised to hand power back to

But the deal never got off the ground. A planned cease-fire failed, with fighting in rural areas escalating in recent eks between the junta forces and tribal militias called kamajors that support Mr. Kabbah. The army accused the kamajors of provoking the fighting and refused to disarm, as it had promised in the peace deal.

The sustained fighting around Free-town, which each side accuses the other of starting, began Feb. 5.

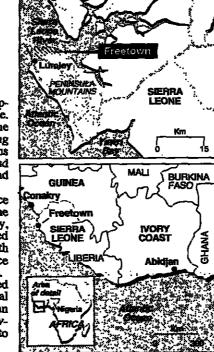
But Ecomog's Nigerian chief of staff made it clear Monday that the force's commanders were seeking a major military victory to weaken or overthrow the

"As I am talking to you, our troops are moving. We are not far away from the city center," Brigadier General Adul One Mohammed said at a news conference in Lagos.

"It is an opportunity to bring sanity to the system," he said.

Freetown sits between a range of steep hills to the south and east and the sea to The Nigerian troops are approaching

the peninsula from the east, with fighting reported along the main roads and in the Journalists in Freetown have been unable to reach combat areas but said a



structure flames. Freetown, which has been crippled economically since the coup and the imposition of sanctions, is virtually shut down, with few vehicles moving and little food available in markets, according to residents reached by

They said residents of combat areas have walked to other parts of the city carrying their belongings, to sleep wherever they can.

#### Corrections

The number of jobs that California officials predict could be lost because of the Asian economic slowdown was misstated in Wednesday's editions. The estimate is 39,000 jobs statewide.

An article about relations between the European Union and Israel in Friday's editions misstated their trade position. After deducting the import of cut diamonds from Antwerp, Israel has a trade deficit with the EU.

An article Friday about Zimbabwe referred to the fight that black liberation forces waged against Britain to gain independence. The war was waged against the forces of the white-minority colonial government of what was then

#### TRAVEL UPDATE

The government intends to send green stickers to people with approved cars that would allow them to drive during pollution alerts. Curbs will be imposed on other drivers when pollution hits the highest alert, level three. Approved vehicles will include those made after 1993, when catalytic converters became mandatory, or those powered by electricity or liquid

Uffizi Gallery to Reopen Rooms

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France Alpe d'Huez

FLORENCE (AFP) - The Uffizi Gallery is reopening this

France Ratifies Anti-Pollution Plan
PARIS (Renters) — The French cabinet approved on
PARIS (Renters) — The French cabinet approved on
PARIS (Renters) — The French cabinet approved on Wednesday anti-pollution measures that will favor owners of newer, environmentally friendly vehicles.

the other seven, displaying paintings by Veronese, Tintoretto and non-Italian masters, were to reopen Thursday. Delta Air Lines is seeking authorization from the U.S.

government to operate six nonstop flights daily to three panese cities. The carrier wants to offer flights from Atlanta to Tokyo starting June 3 and from Portland, Oregon, to Osaka and Fukuoka starting Nov. 1.

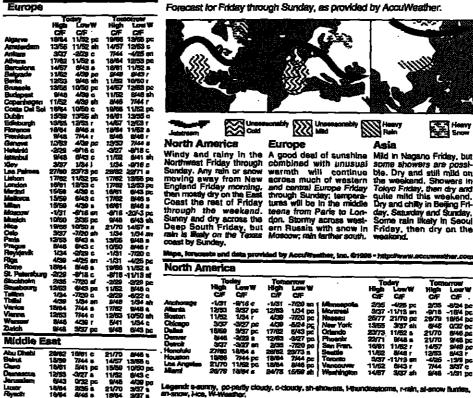
Northwest Airlines will offer daily flights from Osaka, Japan, to Taipei starting April 5.

Singapore's tourist arrivals are expected to fall by 8 percent to 10 percent this year, after a 1.3 percent decline last year, because of the currency turmoil in East Asia. (Bloomberg)

#### WICH THE CIVITATION

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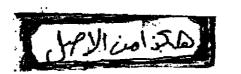
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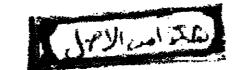
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#### THE AMERICAS

# An Adviser's Metaphor: Clinton as an Airborne Roadrunner' Coyote

By John F. Harris ington Post Service

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton, one of his advisers said this week, is a little like the coyote in the old "Roadrunner" cartoons. He has raced off the cliff, but managed for a moment to keep renning on air.

The point, as this aide explained it, is that the coyote did plummet eventually. And many other Clinion advisers, both inside and outside the White House, acknowledge they have the same fear.

Among the Clinton inner circle there is widespread satisfaction — and no small amount of surprise -- at how well the short-term strategy crafted by Mr. Clinton's lawyers and political learn in the first days of the Monica Lewinsky controversy has succeeded.

By turning away questions, having his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and lieutenants attack the Whitewater independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, and continuing his schedule as though all was normal, Mr. Clinton is prospering politically during the gravest legal threat he has faced during

But many Clinton advisers acknowledge that then success in plowing through the frenzied first days of the controversy does not mean they have as whether and how often he met and called Ms.

White House damage control remains an im- fidavit she gave in the Paula Iones sexual harprovisational, day-to-day affair.

Many advisers, who said they would share their views candidly only on a not-for-attribution basis, expect the next critical moment to come when Mr. Starr seeks to hear from Mr. Clinton sexual relationship with the former White House intern and then urged her to lie about it.

So far, Mr. Starr has not asked Mr. Clinton to give a deposition or appear before the grand jury that has been hearing testimony on the alle-gations. But several Clinton advisers inside and outside the White House say they fully expect such a request — possibly as early as this month — and that it will force Mr. Clinton to deal with the controversy in ways he has so far avoided.

As a practical matter, several advisers said Tuesday, there is little chance Mr. Clinton could refuse to appear without antagonizing a public that, according to most polls, has overwhelmingly given Mr. Clinton the benefit of the doubt. But once Mr. Clinton gives a story to Mr. Starr and a grand jury, there will be overwhelming pressure for him to start giving some answers to the public, some advisers say.

So far, he has snubbed such detailed questions a long-term strategy. Instead, these people say. Lewinsky, gave her gifts, or discussed the af-

assment suit.

"This is driven by public opinion, and if that changes the strategy will change," said one Demo-crat who speaks regularly with Clinton aides. Public opinion has already figured critically in

directly about allegations that he carried on a Mr. Clinton's response. Prior to last week's barrage by Clinton lawyers and various aides about alleged leaks by Mr. Starr, White House aides were already in possession of data by a presidential pollster, Mark Penn, showing overwhelming public sentiment for prosecuting Mr. Starr if it is shown that he violated confidentiality

rules, according to Democratic sources.

In a news conference last week, Mr. Clinton cited confidentiality rules in explaining why he could not answer questions about his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky. Earlier this week, a White House spokesman, Joe Lockhart, acknowledged that, while there is a gag order in the Paula Jones case, there is no legal bar to Mr. Clinton's telling

his story about Ms. Lewinsky.

Already, among some White House staff members and outside Democrats who consult with the White House, several of whom have spoken directly with Mr. Clinton, there is open speculation about what one called an "alternate story line." This is a way that Mr. Clinton, when the time comes, can offer a benign explanation

with Ms. Lewinsky.

Under one scenario being floated by various Democrats close to the White House, Mr. Clinton could try to explain the high-level attention that Ms. Lewinsky got from Mr. Clinton and his close friend, Vernon Jordan Jr., by noting that Ms. Lewinsky was close to a prominent fund-raiser, Walter Kaye, and therefore merited special care.

Under another scenario, which some Democrats said they have urged the president and his advisers to articulate, Mr. Clinton would stick by his story that there was no sexual involvement with Ms. Lewinsky but acknowledge that he was wrong to get so close to her without understanding that their relationship would be subject to question by outsiders.

One Democrat who consults with the White House on political matters said it was "perfectly plausible" that Mr. Clinton might have heard that Ms. Lewinsky was spreading fantasized stories about their relationship. Knowing that his reputation would make many people inclined to be-lieve her, this person asserted, Mr. Clinton may have taken pains to meet with her last December and instructed Mr. Jordan to help her find work.

So far, none of these exculpatory story lines has been offered on anything like an official basis by the White House. But several advisers say this

for the close relationship he apparently enjoyed is a matter of time, despite the preference of Clinton lawyers that he stay silent as long as

> "Look, at some point he's going to have to tell his story and explain himself," said one Democrat who consults frequently with the White House.

> The danger, several advisers said, is that new facts will emerge that Mr. Clinton could not explain innocently, and would lead people who have reserved judgment so far to conclude that he lied in his public denials or under oath. While some advisers think the public is willing to accept a measure of dishonesty on sexual matters, others said they fear that conclusive proof of lying still

> has the potential to destroy his standing.
>
> Speaking with students at Harvard University. Michael McCurry, the White House press secretary, acknowledged as much. "If it turns out what the president has said has not been fair and square with the American people, that has enor-

> mous implications.' But Mr. McCurry went on to say that the stakes were equally high for those who have reported on the allegations.

"If it turns out that much of what has been reported in this environment ends up being not true, the damage that's been done to the in-stitution of the press," he said, "will be griev-

#### **Helms Stuns Albright With** Turnabout on Foreign Policy

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By Norman Kempster Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Jesse Helms, in a pointed exchange with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, has said he intends to stall key U.S. foreign policy legislation unless the White House yields to Congress on an unrelated abortion issue.

Mrs. Albright warned that the impasse was forcing her to conduct foreign policy "with one hand tied behind my back." But Mr. Helms insisted Tuesday that the administration was responsible for the deadlock, and he called for new talks, possibly including President Bill Clinton, to "work something out."

The conservative North Carolina senator said Congress was unlikely to approve a compromise bill to pay overdue U.S. does to the United Nations, increase by \$18 billion the U.S. line of credit for the International Monetary Fund, and reorganize the State Department without an agreement on the abortion issue.

The UN, IMF and reorganization leg-islation was described by Mrs. Albright as the most important piece of unfinished foreign policy business on Capitol Hill. The bill stalled last year when abortion opponents in the House attached an amendment prohibiting U.S. contributions to international family planning organizations that use their own funds to perform or suggest abortions abroad.

Mr. Clinton threatened to veto the bill if the abortion language was included. Mrs. Albright had regarded Mr. Helms as an ally on the issue before their exchange during a committee hearing Tuesday. She seemed shocked when he asserted: "You're not going to get any United Nations money. You're not going

to get the reorganization."

Mrs. Albright said she thought Mr.
Helms had agreed that the UN, IMF and reorganization plans were too important to be jeopardized by the abortion fight. She also reminded him that he had helped write legislation that was sidetracked by the abortion dispute.



Secretary Albright appearing before Senator Helms's committee.

"I stood with you last year," Mr. Helms said. "And I got fussed at all across the country by people who thought I had sold out. Well, I hadn't sold out."

The UN and IMF issues are crucial to administration foreign policy goals. The United States is about \$1 billion behind on its dues at the United Nations, a fact that has subjected Washington to ridicule abroad. In addition, according to administration officials, the nonpayment has damaged U.S. efforts to use the United Nations to advance U.S. priorities such as the destruction of Iraq's apons of mass destruction.

'Mr. Chairman, this issue is not complicated; it is simple," Mrs. Albright said. "The best America is a leader, not a debtor. Let us act quickly to put our UN arrears behind us, restore America's full influence within the UN system,

move ahead with UN reform.' But Mr. Helms, an outspoken foe of abortion, told Mrs. Albright: "There may not be swift approval of IMF and

continues to reject concessions made by the House last year," ... **■ Rubin Presses Congress** 

International financial institutions

like the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and regional development banks are reforming to meet U.S. concerns and should be supported, Treasury
Secretary Robert Rubin told Congress, Bloomberg News reported.

Continuing a battle to win funding for the IMF and related institutions, Mr. Rubin said the organizations provided an enormous return for the American taxpayer" by helping build free markets and free trade, and helping contain financial crises like those in Asia.

Mr. Rubin's remarks coincided with the opening of a campaign by a group of business and political leaders led by former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford to persuade Congress to approve IMF funding and preserve the administration's ability to help foreign econ-UN funding, even if you have the votes omies through the Treasury Depart-for it, so long as the administration ment's Exchange Stabilization Fund.

#### A Clinton-Lewinsky Meeting Reported

#### Ex-Secret Service Agent Says the 2 Were Alone in Oval Office in 1995

By Susan Schmidt Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Monica Lewinsky spent part of a weekend afternoon in late 1995 alone with President Bill Clinton in the Oval Office, according to a retired Secret Service officer.

Mr. Clinton testified last month that he did not recall ever being alone with Ms. Lewinsky, either while she was employed at the White House or later at the Pentagon, except perhaps on very brief occasions when she dropped off papers in his office, according to sources

familiar with Mr. Clinton's testimony. The former uniformed Secret Service officer, Lewis Fox, said in an interview Tuesday that Ms. Lewinsky, then a White House intern, spent at least 40 minutes alone with Mr. Clinton while Mr. Fox was posted outside the Oval Office door. She had arrived with papers for the president, he said, and Mr. Clinton instructed Mr. Fox to usher her into his office.

Mr. Clinton was questioned in a closed-door deposition Jan. 17 in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case about whether he had sexual relationships with Ms. Lewinsky and other government employees.

Mr. Fox is the first person to publicly say that he saw the president and Ms. Lewinsky alone together. As a result, his statement could be critical to the attempt the independent cours Starr, to determine whether Mr. Clinton did have a relationship with Ms. Lewinsky and then attempt to conceal it.

The White House press secretary, Michael McCurry, said Wednesday that it would be unusual for a Secret Service agent, rather than a White

Associated Press reported.

miliar with or that any of us around here are familiar with." Mr. McCurry said. Asked whether Mr. Clinton would clear up questions about the matter, Mr. McCurry said, "We are not responding day to day to stories."]

Mr. Fox, who retired after 27 years with the Secret Service in January 1997, said he was uncertain of the exact date when Ms. Lewinsky visited the Oval Office, but said he believed it was a Saturday afternoon in either September, October or November 1995. Ms. Lewinsky told her onetime friend Linda Tripp - who secretly tape-recorded many of their conversations and gave them to investigators — that she began a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton on Nov. 15, 1995, according to an affidavit Ms. Tripp made in the Jones case.

A Secret Service spokesman, Arnette Heintze, said his office would not comment on what Mr. Fox or other Secret Service personnel may have seen because the Lewinsky matter is the subject of Mr. Starr's ongoing investigation.
Mr. Fox said the day he witnessed
Ms. Lewinsky visit Mr. Clinton, he

was posted for a one-hour shift outside the Oval Office door. It was around midday, he said, when Ms. Lewinsky arrived saying she had some paperwork she needed to oming president.

Mr. Fox said the president's secretary, Betty Currie, was not on duty that day. Mr. Fox said he opened the Oval Office door and told Mr. Clinton there were papers for him. The president was able to see Ms. Lewinsky

House staff member, to be ushering through the doorway, Mr. Fox said, someone into the Oval Office, The and he told the officer to send her in. Mr. Fox said he remained at his post for ["It's not the practice that I'm fa- another 40 minutes or so before he was relieved by another officer. During that time, he said, Ms. Lewinsky was behind the closed doors of the Oval Office with Mr. Clinton.

Mr. Fox said he was what occurred between Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky.

[The political consultant and Clinton ally James Carville . d in a television interview that there were holes in Mr. Fox's story, Reuters reported.
["Why would The Washington Post

report that when they know full well that there are four doors into the Oval Office? Why didn't they choose to report that anybody can wall in any door, none of them are locked said. "All that we know, . . th. man's memory is correct, is a second didn't

come out the door [ He added that .... eye lenses, which a Watte couse of-

ficial said allow a person outside the Oval Office to look in, for example, to check on the status of a meeting.] Mr. Fox, who lives in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, was inter-fewed on

WPXI television in Pittsburgh last week and said he saw Ms. Lewinsky in the White House, Since that broadcas he has been

contacted by the association that represents Secret Service officers and dis couraged from 10 rading anything more about what he saw.

Officials at the television station said they received a subpoena from Mr. Starr for the videotape of the Fox in terview and had given it to investi-

## Filtering the Mystery Out of Tap Water The Associated Press lations that would require snapshot of the current state the federal drinking water WASHINGTON — The suppliers nationwide to of their local drinking water law, this "citizen right-to-moved outstanding water suppliers supplier

moved a step closer to giving American consumers detailed information about potential

hazards in their tap water. The Environmental Protection Agency proposed regu-

entitled to legal protection.

Quote/Unquote

cloning was shelved Wednesday because of fundamental

differences over what constitutes a human life form that is

A move to break the filibuster received 42 votes in the

Opponents of the bill, who include many groups in the

President Bill Clinton, resisting Republican pressure for a

tax cut; "Let me be clear: Fiscal irresponsibility gave us 12

years of exploding deficits, division, declining wages. Fiscal

scientific community, say it goes too far in restricting vital

Senate, 18 short of the 60 needed to end the impasse and

begin debate on a Republican-backed bill that would per-

manently ban a procedure for cloning a human embryo.

provide customers with an-nual reports on what is in their istrator, Carol Browner, said subject of concern from some drinking water and whether it at a news conference.

meets federal health stanThe regulation, which

"The new information will provide consumers with a

The regulation, which must

undergo a 45-day comment period, will not be final until later this year, and environ-

would be:

rivers the water came from. What contaminants were in the water and whether the amounts exceeded U.S. health standards.

• What health risks were posed by the contamination when federal standards were exceeded.

· What violations and enforcement actions had been taken against the water supplier during the year. When Congress last sum-

lawmakers.

There was disagreement over how much information should be made available. Water agencies had mainmental officials said most of tained that providing too the nation's 56,000 water much data might confuse cusagencies probably would not tomers, cause unnecessary supply the annual reports un- fears and add to costs.

The Senate originally re-Included in the reports jected the disclosure provision. But supporters argued • What lakes, aquifers or citizens had a right to know what chemicals and other contaminants were in the water they drink. The law, when finally approved, left it to the environmental agency to develop regulations on the new reporting requirements.

Meanwhile, the Food and Drug Administration is conright-to-knew" labeling on bottled water. The drug agency is working with the bottled water industry on new mer considered revisions in guidelines for such labeling.

#### POLITICAL NOTES

#### Surgeon General Is Confirmed

WASHINGTON - The Senate has voted overwhelmingly to confirm David Satcher as surgeon general, rejecting attempts by conservatives to link him to controversial causes and to frame the vote as a referendum on the "values and ethics" of President Bill Clinton's administration. The confirmation of Dr. Satcher, 57, the director of the

the first time since Joycelyn Elders was forced to resign from the office in 1994. He was confirmed by a vote of 63 to 35 after 75 senators

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fills the post for

— 15 more than required — voted to end a filibuster mounted by the conservative Senator John Ashcroft, Republican of Missouri. Mr. Ashcroft and other conservatives opposed the con-

firmation, citing Dr. Satcher's opposition to a ban on what critics call partial-birth abortions and his support for needleexchange programs for drug addicts.

#### Maine Repeals Gay-Rights Law

AUGUSTA, Maine - Maine has become the first state to vote to repeal a gay-rights law, a move that both sides said should send a message around the nation.

Ten other states and the District of Columbia have laws similar to the one repealed Tuesday, which barred discrimination against homosexuals in employment, housing and credit applications. Supporters of gay rights said the repeal would increase pressure for a federal law. Opponents said the federal government should learn a different lesson: to refrain from providing special protection for homosexuals.

The referendum brought out only 31 percent of Maine's voters; 52 percent of those voting favored the repeal. (AP)

#### Bill to Ban Cloning Is Shelved

WASHINGTON - Senate legislation to ban human

responsibility has given us the strongest economy in a generation. I will not allow a return to the policies that have failed us in the past."

lishers Clearing House and American Family Publishers, has outraged people in Florida.

American Family Publishers after learning that the letter that stated "You've Swept Past 200,000-Plus Other Winners With Our First \$11,075,000 Prize in History!" was worthless. She and another plaintiff are seeking damages equal to the prize and asking that the company be barred from using words such as "con-

Florida's attorney general, Bob Butterworth, has filed an action against American Family Publishers charging it with violating state law against deceptive and unfair practices. A spokes-

#### **Short Takes**

Spas and massage stations have been offering an astonishing array of new ways to reduce stress, U.S. News & World Report says. Consider these mind-expanding, muscle-relaxing possibilities: the hot-stone massage involves kneading smooth, heated lava stones into tense muscles; in the Shirodhara, heated aromatic oil

years seeking to claim fortunes. Tampa airport to relax the nervous system; the Watsu involves being rocked, cradled and massaged by a therapist in a pool of mineral water, a veritable backto-the-womb experience. Then there is the equine experience (not available at urban locations): brushing and grooming a horse.

In California, some Wells Fargo bank branches will soon offer clients services not normally associated with banking. Customers will be able to drop off their dry cleaning, mail packages, buy a sandwich or pick up a cap-puccino. The services will be provided by a wellknown Seattle-based coffee chain, a food purveyor and a dry-cleaning business.

Legislators in Iowa, concerned about prostitution rings at interstate highway rest stops introduced a bill not long ago intended to bar sex acts in certain public places. Now some Iowans in high places are concerned about unintended effects. Under the bill, Governor Terry Branstad apparently could face as much as a year in jail for having sex with his wife in the governor's mansion. "This bill has some good intentions," said state Representative Dwight Dinkla, "but it certainly needs some more work."



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#### cashier in a 1986 robbery. (Reuters) A rare set of Siamese twins, couected at the side and with only two legs between them, has been born in Cali-(Reuters)

Virginia executed a man who killed a

**Away From Politics** 

U.S. environmental officials are in-

vestigating whether hundreds of thou-

sands of modern heavy-duty diesel

trucks were illegally designed to skirt

the Clean Air Act's controls on pol-lution emissions. (NYT)

The chairman of the NAACP,

Myrlie Evers-Williams, says she will

not run for re-election. She wants to

establish an institute named for her hus-

band; the slain civil rights worker

A former saleswoman who said she

was fired for speaking Spanish was awarded \$500,000 by a federal jury in

Medgar Evers.

New York.

#### **AMERICAN TOPICS**

#### Sweepstakes 'Winners' Learn

The Hard Truth of Marketing Richard Lusk, an 88-year-old California man, flew across the country to Tampa, Florida, last week, persuaded that he had won \$11 million in

the American Family Publishers sweepstakes.

Although he had flown there in October on a similar mission and suffered a stroke the day after his return, Mr. Lusk again paid \$1,700 for an airplane ticket. He wanted to hand-deliver his "winning" entry to the return address on a letter that declared: "Richard Lusk, Final Results Are In, and They're Official: You're Our Newest \$11 Million Winner." Mr. Lusk, reports the Los Angeles Times, did not see the small print that said he had won only if he had the winning number. "I didn't see how I could be wrong,

he said this week. He was not alone. At least 20 people, most of them elderly, have flown to Florida in recent is poured onto the forehead in a constant stream

officials say. The parade of seniors baffled by sweepstakes run by marketers such as Pub-A Tampa resident, Ina Brown, 77, has sued

gratulations" in future mailings.

man for the company denies any wrongdoing.

#### ASIA/PACIFIC

## Police in Jakarta Begin Arresting Protesters

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

JAKARTA — Slapping himself vigorously on the stomach, a man in a brown shirt shouted, "We are hungry!" as a line of riot policemen with plastic shields moved forward Wednesday for their biggest crackdown yet on street demonstrators in the In-

Nearly 100 people were detained after a peaceful protest over the rising prices and food shortages that are forcing shoppers to spend hours in search of such basic items as cooking oil and baby-milk powder.

As Indonesia's economy has continued to worsen, despite a \$40 billion rescue package organized by the International Monetary Fund, anger has risen here and food riots have broken out in a score of communities around the country.

President Suharto sounded angry on Wednesday too, calling the exchange rate for the weakened currency, the rupiah, "insane." Since last July, the rupiah has fallen from 2,400 to the dollar to as low as 17,000 to the dollar, before strengthening again to about 7,200 on Wednesday.

Speaking informally on a visit to a factory, the president attributed the rupiah's fall to a "plot" by unnamed enemies aimed at destroying Indonesia's

"There are signs that this monetary crisis has been engineered to smash our economic development of the

past 30 years," he said. His words were reminiscent of accusations by Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad

On Sunday and Monday, a much bigger riot in the of Malaysia, who has blamed currency speculators, neo-colonialists and even a Jewish conspiracy for Asia's economic crisis.

In a gamble that is intended to stabilize the rupiah and to calm the protests and riots that have become increasingly frequent around the country, the government announced that it was moving ahead, as expected, to establish a currency board system.

Such a board — which some economists say is inappropriate for Indonesia - would peg the rupiah at a fixed rate, which it would support with the country's foreign exchange reserves.

It was not clear whether the arrests near the Ministry of Labor marked a toughening of the official attitude toward the small demonstrations that have become increasingly frequent in the streets of Jakarta.

Previous protests, mostly involving supporters of the opposition leader Megawati Sukarnoputri, have for the most part been left alone to march and shout and disperse peacefully. But the military has also announced that it is deploying 35,000 soldiers in the city and will act forcefully to maintain order here.

The capital has not so far experienced the violent outbursts that have spread through provincial towns and cities. The latest of these to be reported here. occurred Tuesday in the central Javanese town of Burniayu, where officials said several dozen people threw stones at shops that had raised the price of town of Ende on the island of Flores reportedly destroyed 21 Chinese-owned shops and forced many

of their owners to take refuge in a police station.

In the demonstration in Jakarta, about 300 people carrying red and white banners and chanting "Lower the prices!" gathered outside the office of the attorney

"Corruption is making the crisis worse," said a demonstrator, who identified herself only as Irma. Security forces moved in to break up the rally, but when the demonstrators regrouped, not police in visored helmets and padded vests began arresting them, marching them in orderly lines toward military trans-

"They were holding activities without permission in a public street, so what the police have done is ensure the safety of the traffic," said Colonel Arthur Damanik of the police.

#### ■ Palu Protest on Prices Reported

The official Antara news agency, in a dispatch cited by Reuters, reported that hundreds of people, mostly students, rallied Wednesday in and around Palu, the provincial capital of Central Sulawesi, in a similar protest against rising prices.

While most of the town's shops were shut, Antara said there had been no damage, and the police reported that the situation was under control.

## China: A Bulwark and a Peril to Asian Economies

By Steven Mufson Washington Post Service

BEIJING - By vowing to defend its currency and prop up its economy with public-spending projects, China has

been playing up its role as the responsible neighbor amid Asia's financial tumult. Deputy Prime Minister Li Lanqing said last week that China would put extra money into infrastructure and environmental projects if necessary to keep its flagging growth rate at 8 per-cent this year. And he promised once again to protect the value of the currency, the yuan.

"I think for 1998, greater China is the bulwark of Asian stability and growth."

By David E. Sanger

and Don Van Natta Jr.

New York Times Service

contributions to the Democratic Nation-

al Committee in the 1996 election ori-

ginated in bank accounts in "the greater

China area," according to the final re-

port of Republican senators investigat-

York Times, says it could not establish

that the Chinese government "funded,

directed or encouraged the illegal con-

tributions." The chapter is circulating

among member of the committee and

While the report draws many con-

nections between Chinese interests and

Democratic donors and fund-raisers, it

fails to provide evidence that China's

government funneled money into na-

tional campaigns or influenced policy decisions in Washington.

the nation's intelligence agencies.

But the committee, in a declassified

page chapter obtained by The New

ing campaign finance abuses.

WASHINGTON — Illegal campaign

Bankers Trust in Hong Kong. "It is very much the driver.

Despite its helpful economic policy commitments, however, China remains more a looming threat to the region's economies than their savior, many analysts say. Even without devaluing its currency, China has a troubled banking system, towering stockpiles of inexpensive consumer goods, huge exports, a voracious appetite for foreign investment and a virtually endless supply of what is still the cheapest labor in Asia.

"The absolute wage level is still cheaper in China," said Ken Chan, regional economist for Nikko Securities Research Center. "Even in the coastal

No Smoking Gun on '96 Fund-Raising

Yet the report asserts that there is

plenty of evidence that Chinese officials

intended to do so. It concludes that

President Jiang Zemin approved the cre-

China's representatives had been reg-istered with Congress. The committee concluded that China was chiefly mo-

tivated by its desire to match the so-

phisticated efforts of Taiwan and other

zeal quickly resulted in a range of covert

The report goes on to say that China's

said William Overholt, an executive at region, the wage level is at most parallel with Thailand and the Philippines. But in other areas there are very, very low

> The number of destitute Chinese peasants expected to migrate to cities in search of low-paid work during China's current five-year plan exceeds the entire labor force of Indonesia. China sucks in one-third more investment than Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand combined, and much of that investment has been in fixed plants that will not be picked up and moved out of the country.

> For the moment, China's government also appears to be more stable than some

"What we're seeing today around the region and the world, deflation and unstable currencies, is the delayed effect of the shock of 1.2 billion Chinese entering the world economy," said an invest-ment manager based in Hong Kong.

also blunted by the degree to which it is similar to them. China's imports including machinery, technology and wheat — come mostly from the United States, Japan and Europe and probably will not be bought from Asian countries. Although China could dig into its \$140 billion in foreign-exchange reserves and invest in its neighbors, it remains cautions about its foreign investments.

"If the region expects China to be a major buyer, don't expect it to happen,'

Mr. Chan said. However, given that China already occupies a huge place in the world economy, other Asians are relieved that it appears ready to act in ways that will not worsen Asia's problems. Unlike the situation 10 or 20 years ago when China lived in not-so-splendid isolation, analysts say that the fate of the rest of Asia now hangs in the balance when China weighs what to do with its domestic economic policy and exchange rate. Many analysts agree that a move by China to devalue its currency would set off a round of competitive devaluations and spell depression for the entire region.

That would not help China either. Asia is the source of more than half of China's investment and the destination of about 30 percent of its exports. China has no incentive to cut the rest of Asia

"A stable youn helps China and helps Asia, '' a government spokesman says. At the world economic forum in Davos, Switzerland, Mr. Li said: "China should not add fuel to the flames. We are very firm in our determination not to devalue the yuan." A devaluation, he said, would lead to devaluations of other currencies in the region and have "an

my."

In addition to damaging China's customers and investors, a devaluation of the yuan would have other adverse consequences for China: It would make imported goods - machinery, petroleum and wheat — more expensive and possibly reignite the inflation that Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji has

China's ability to help its neighbors is

off at the knees.

avalanche effect" that would be "a disaster for stability and growth in Asia and the growth of the world econo-

just spent three years beating back.

BRIEFLY



Women and children awaiting aid Wednesday in Rustak, northern Afghanistan, a week after an earthquake devastated the region.

#### Aid Workers Warn Of Afghan Deaths

RUSTAK, Afghanistan — Aid workers warned Wednesday that the heavy death toll in the Afghan earthquake Feb. 4 could rise.

Snow was blocking all efforts to reach thousands stranded with little Executions Decline. shelter or food, they said.

A week after the quake hit the northern province of Takhar killing about 4,000 people, humanitarian organizations were still frustrated in attempts to reach the stricken villages, many of which lie on steep mountain

"Thousands of people are facing risk of death through exposure," said Sandrine Chopin, an official from the European Commission Humanitarian

"If they cannot eat to generate warmth and have no shelter, this will result in a major threat of many

An official from the International Committee of the Red Cross said the group was negotiating with Is-lamabad to allow a Pakistan Air Force Hercules to fly in supplies.

Included would be blankets, tents and food, and possibly a helicopter to help scour the isolated region in search of survivors. The relief material would be taken

from the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar to Hajaghar airstrip in Takhar Province.

#### Separatists Call Strike in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India - Various Muslim separatist groups enforced a general strike Wednesday across Kashmir to mark the 14th anniversary of the execution of one of their leaders by the Indian government, witnesses

Businesses, banks, offices and schools remained closed and roads were deserted because of the one-day protest, they said.

Magbool Bhatt, founder of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, a separatist group, was hanged in an Indian jail 14 years ago on charges of murder.

The All Party Freedom Conference, an umbrella forum of the separatist groups here, paid tributes to

Mr. Bhatt and hailed him as the first-Kashmiri to "shed his blood" in the struggle for Kashmir's independence from India.

Some 20,000 people have died in Kashmir since 1989 when the separatists began their anti-Indian rebel-

## Beijing Declares

BEUING - The number of criminals sentenced to death in China has: decreased since a revision of the criminal code in October, a Supreme, People's Court judge said Wednes-

The greater restriction on capital punishment shows that China cher-ishes the lives of criminals," said. Judge Zhang Jun.

No figures were given with the report, carried by the official Xinhua; press agency.

In August, the human rights group! Amnesty International estimated that: on average 17 persons were sentenced to death each day in 1996, or more; than 6,100 people over the course of

Of the estimated total, 4,367 death: sentences were carried out, Annesty, has said.

Revisions to the penal code exclude the death sentence for pregnant, women and for criminals under age; (AFP) 18. Xinhua said.

# Hong Kong Protest At Official's Visit

HONG KONG -- Ringed and outnumbered by police, protesters fol-lowed China's legislative leader, Wednesday on his first visit to Hong

Kong.
Qiao Shi, head of the National People's Congress and one of the most powerful Chinese leaders to visit Hong Kong since its handover to Chinese rule, met with top Hong Kong officials at Government House, the former residence of Britain's colonial governors.

Demonstrations outside Government House by two opposition groups were heavily controlled, with police outnumbering demonstrators by a ratio of 5 to 1.

There were minor scuffles but no arrests, the police said.

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went to a Republican who ran for the The committee was blocked in de-

California State Assembly in 1996.

activities "designed to influence elections in this country." It also cited a "fragmentary" report that China at-tempted to influence the 1996 presi-

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dential election. The so-called China chapter of the 1,500-page final report represents the conclusions of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, led by Senator Fred Thompson of Tennessee. In July, seas banking records, including in Mr. Thompson opened the committee's China and Macau.

After nearly a year of investigation in the United States and Asia, and ation of a Chinese government lobbying group to influence the U.S. Congress. after 32 days of hearings that were televised last summer and fall, the committee "still cannot determine conclusively" whether China "fun-Such lobbying would have been legal if

election process.

hearings with the assertion that there

was "a Chinese plan to subvert our

legal contributions" to the Democratic National Committee. The report describes a wealthy Hong Kong contributor as a man who "reported to and was briefed by Chinese Communist Party officials," but it traces only one donation from the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles. It

ded, directed, or encouraged the il-

termining the origins of several million dollars in Democratic contributions because they could not get access to over-

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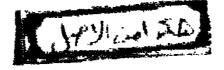
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**EUROPE** 



# Marines Remove a Commander in Italy Ski-Lift Investigation

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## Beijing Declares

RELINO - The number of a was a service and a country Country the area of the same of the sa u**dusies** victorialists **713**55 i...". A Section of the sect iona a com Ke. In addition, Mr. Stephan is said to be

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Wednesday in Rustak norther carinquake delastated the rep Mr. Bhatt and nathed him as he f

Executions Decline

companion, Dodi al Fayed, and the driver, Henri Paul, there remains little sign that the crash in a highway tunnel along the Seine after midnight Aug. 31 was anything other than the congruence of high speed, a drunken driver, a de-termination to escape paparazzi photographers and possibly a second car. But lawyers familiar with the case say the investigation appears likely to drag on for at least several more months.

By Anne Swardson

Washington Post Service

PARIS - One of the most thorough

investigations in the history of French

justice, the inquiry into the car crash in August that killed Diana, Princess of

As a new book appears on the auto accident that took the life of Diana; her

Wales, is far from complete.

By Matthew L. Wald

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The commander of a squad-

ron of jets like the one that severed cables on a ski

lift in Italy last week, killing 20 people, was relieved of command Friday because he asked

erew members to turn over to him evidence in the

investigation, according to the U.S. Marine

In a statement Tuesday night, the Marine Corps and Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Watters had been

removed "because the commanding general lost

"The loss of confidence stems from statements

made to his squadron to destroy potential evidence

in an ongoing investigation," the statement said.

Colonel Watters was not the commander of the

Is Expected to Drag On

New Book Says She Could Have Survived

their own inquiry.

pay for news.

photographers again.

The physical portion of the inves-

tigation is believed to be complete. At

the end of December, the criminal bri-

gade turned over a two-foot-high

dossier of the results of its investigation

to Mr. Stephan. Technical reports on the

wreck of the Mercedes are expected to

be sent to him this week or next. The

magistrate also plans on questioning the

The new book, by the Time magazine

correspondents Thomas Sancton and

Scott MacLeod, raises the question of

whether French emergency physicians

made the right decision in stabilizing

Diana's condition at the crash site and

transporting her slowly to the Pitte-Sal-

petriere hospital. It took an hour and 40

minutes from the moment of the crash,

about 12:20 A.M., to Diana's arrival at

quadron involved in the incident last week, near

confidence in his ability to lead the squadron."

"This case has involved more very fication, more participants, more care than any other case I have seen," said
Jean-Marc Coblence, a lawyer for three of the photographers under investigation for allegations of involuntary hor icide and failing to help the victims. tion for allegations of involuntary hom-

One factor is slowing the process.

Herve Stephan, the French magistrate who is the chief investigator, is handling other unrelated investigations as well, perhaps dozens of them, according to one lawyer familiar with the case. "The system is overloaded," the lawyer said by way of explanation. In France, such a workload is typical for investigating magistrates, who have little staff.

a meticulous worker who is aware of the political and media pressure surrounding the investigation. 'He wants to do a model inquiry,

said William Bourdon, lawyer for another of the photographers. "He wants to leave nothing undone, to close all the doors." The other magistrate in the the hospital, the book said. Other accase, Marie-Christine Devidal, has a counts have suggested a similar gap. similar reputation.

imilar reputation.

Some of that time was spent extric-trice Times of London reported this ating Diana from the wreckage, and week that the British royal family was more on beginning an IV and stabilizing

the northern Italian ski resort town of Cavalese.

But the investigation has broadened to include his squadron because it rotates with three other squadrons between the Marine Air Station at Cherry Point, North Carolina, and a NATO base in Aviano, Italy. It was a jet on a training flight from Aviano that flew too low Feb. 3 and severed a ski lift, causing a gondola to crash to the ground and

killing all of the passengers.

Marine investigators have been questioning the crews that fly EA-6B Prowler jets about whether they had broken the altitude rules for training

Defense Department officials have acknowledged that the military jet, which is used in lowaltitude missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, was flying far below the minimum authorized altitude for training missions when it hit the ski lift.

A spokesman for the Marine Corps, Lieutenant

Colonel Stuart Wagner, said he did not know all the details of what Colonel Watters had said to his crews he commanded had any evidence that would

Colonel Watters declined to comment when reached by telephone at his home.

A retired Prowler crew member who now works for a defense contractor said Tuesday that active crew members at the briefing called by Colonel Watters told him of what was discussed at the

The retiree, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the colonel had asked his crew members if they had any videotapes might show

they had violated the rules on low-altitude flying. The colonel asked that any such videotapes be turned over to him, the retiree said. Prowler crews commonly take ordinary home-video cameras aloft with them.

Thus far, no charges have been brought against

crews he commanded had any evidence that would have incriminated them.

Colonel Watters, known as Muddy, entered the Marines in August 1979.

#### ■ Italy Doubles Minimum Jet Altitude

Italy's defense minister said Wednesday that he had ordered the minimum altitude for flights over Italy doubled, The Associated Press reported from

Deputy Minister Beniamino Andreatta told the Chamber of Deputies he had ordered the minimum altitude raised from 150 meters (500 feet) to 600 meters for flights over the Italian Alps and to 300 meters for the rest of the country.

Mr. Andreatta also said he had suspended all military flights, both Italian and foreign, over the region where the cable car fell.

#### BRIEFLY

#### Lebed Candidacy In Siberia Reported

MOSCOW - Alexander Lebed, Russia's former security chief and presidential candidate, will run for governor in Krasnoyarsk, a key industrial region in central Siberia, according to a report Wednesday.

Mr. Lebed finished a strong third in the 1996 presidential race, but he has been less and less visible since he was fired as President Boris Yeltsin's security chief in October

Winning a governor's post would automatically make him a member of the Federation Council, the upper house of Russia's Parliament. He will face 15 other contenders in the April 26 election, according to the report, carried by the Itar-Tass news agency. (AP)

#### Bosnian Serbs End Protest Over Arrest

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnian Serbs tore down a symbolic wall in Saraievo on Wednesday that they had erected to protest the arrest of a Serb suspect accused of killing a Bosnian government official.

Dragan Savic, the protest leader said the Serbs decided to knock down the 10-meter-long brick wall in a Sarajevo suburb after holding talks with international police mon-

'What we are doing today is showing understanding towards the international community regarding the Vasic case," Mr. Savic told reporters. The wall was erected on Tuesday to protest the arrest of Goran Vasic by Muslim-Croat federation police last week. (Reuters)

#### German State Bans 2 Neo-Nazi Groups

BERLIN — The Lower Saxony state interior minister banned two neo-Nazi groups Wednesday, one day after another state announced a police crackdown on extremerightist hangouts.

The decisions follow government reports that neo-Nazi attacks rose 10 percent last year, as well as concerns that extreme-rightists are using intimidation to keep foreigners out of restaurants, bars and neighborhoods.

Interior Minister Gerhard Glokowski said the banned groups, both called "Heide-Heim," 'Home on the Heath," were based in Buchholz and Hamburg and had

government. On Tuesday, the interior minister of Brandenburg state, Alwin Ziel, announced that police would be assigned to a crackdown starting next week on neo-Nazi hangouts. He

said his state had an estimated 40

extreme-rightist groups.



The actress Amy Secombe playing Diana during the filming of the TV movie "The People's Princess" near Palma, Majorca, on Wednesday. At her side, Anthony Zaki played the princess's friend Hasnat Khan.

her blood pressure and other vital signs. once in the ambulance. The trip from the crash site to the hospital, a distance of less than five kilometers (three miles), took 40 minutes.

Excerpts of the book, "Death of a Princess," in this week's Time and The Times quote U.S. doctors as saying Diana's survival chances would have been greater had she been immediately taken to the hospital and placed on a heartand-lung machine.

it quotes, among others, David Wasserman, an experienced American emergency physician. "You could never diagnose that kind of injury in the field. never," he said. "In the U.S. there'd be hell to pay in a case like this - lawsuits, internal investigations. Spending all that time on on-site treatment was exactly the wrong approach for this patient."

Spokesmen for Paris emergency services and for Pitie-Salpetriere declined to comment, though they have said in the past that critical-care ambulances perfectly equipped for resuscit-They and others also have poination.

ted out that, unlike in the United States, French ambulances are always staffed by doctors, not paramedics.

Jerry Papon, head of emergency services at the American Hospital in Paris, explained that the French and U.S. systems operate under different philosophies. Emphasizing that he was not familiar with the details of Diana's case, Dr. Papon said French ambulances were more extensively equipped than American ones, even carrying mini bloodanalysis labs. Doctors — in critical-care ambulances there are two of them - are trained to make a preliminary diagnosis

of a trauma patient and, with rare exceptions, stabilize him or her before transportation.

"Treating the patient on-site is very controversial," he said. "It is probably one of the most controversial differences between the United States and France, and the Diana case raised it

The French health minister, Bernard Kouchner, who is a doctor, said that given Diana's injuries, she could not have been saved regardless of now soc was treated. "There was nothing more to do," he said.

Diana's mother, Frances Shand Kydd, told the Daily Express newspaper she believed that Diana's injuries were unsurvivable" regardless of treatment and that "the medical staff in Paris did everything they could."

# the shared goal of overthrowing the

## De Niro Lawyer Files Charge on Magistrate

He Accuses Prober of Seeking Publicity

PARIS - A lawyer for Robert De Niro accused a French investigating magistrate Wednesday of dragging the movie star into an inquiry about a high-flying prostitution ring only to publicize his investigation.

Georges Kiejman, a former justice minister and now one of France's leading lawyers, said the American actor had nothing to do with the case and was hauled in only because one call girl had mentioned his name. Mr. Kiejman filed a complaint against Frederic N'Guy-

en, the investigating magistrate, late Tuesday while Mr. De Niro, who is working in Paris on the John Franken-heimer film "Ronin," was being questioned about a sex ring for wealthy Middle East clients.

"De Niro doesn't play any role in this affair," Mr. Kiejman told RTL radio. "One young woman, only one young woman, said Robert De Niro had looked at her and that the world had looked at her and she thought he liked her.' Mr. De Niro, 53, evaded dozens of waiting journalists

Tuesday evening when he left the Paris law courts after nine hours of questioning.

Mr. N Guyen has been investigating the prostinution ring for several months, and two people have already been placed under investigation and are in jail awaiting possible trial in connection with the case. They are a 49-yearold Swedish former top model accused, according to a court charge sheet, of being the ring's organizer, and a male photographer who worked for several racy

Mr. Kiejman said Mr. N'Guyen had illegally inhibited Mr. De Niro's movements and violated the secrecy of the inquiry by leaking to the news media his intention to question the movie star.

Reports linking Mr. De Niro to the inquiry appeared in the press Saturday.

Mr. Kiejman said the investigating magistrate had what he called "an inordinate love of the cinema," adding, "I suspect there was a bit of megalomania about having Robert De Niro appearing before him."

A well-known French film producer, who has since been released on bail, is under investigation on rape charges in the case, justice sources said. Also freed, but still under investigation for multiple rape, is a former

Polish international class tennis player, they said.
The ring, which operated mostly on the French Riviera, was said by French radio to offer prostitutes' services for 5,000 francs (\$825) to 20,000 francs a night.

FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION Read THE MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT.

# London and Dublin Weigh Expulsion of Sinn Fein

By James F. Clarity New York Times Service

DUBLIN — The Irish and British governments said Wednesday that they would decide in a matter of days whether to expel Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, from the Northern Ireland peace talks.

The Protestant-inspired campaign to expel the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Sinn Fein appeared to be gaining momentum, according to Irish and British officials involved in the peace talks. Sinn Fein should be expelled, the

Protestants say, because the IRA has returned to the violence that Sinn Fein renounced to get a place at the formal talks. "It looks bad," said a neutral official, reflecting a widely held view that without Sinn Fein, the talks are unlikely to produce a sus- Belfast to Dublin on Monday.

tainable peaceful settlement of the sectarian warfare that has killed more than 3,200 people since

In Dublin, Prime Minister Bertie Ahern said he had received information indicating that the IRA was behind the killing on Monday night of a civilian in Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland.

If that information proved accurate and was confirmed by Ronnie Flanagan, the chief constable of Northern Ireland, Mr. Ahern said, then the Irish and British governments would consider the exclusion

The British Northern Ireland secretary, Mo Mowlam, said Wednesday afternoon in Parliament in London that she would make a decision 'towards the end of this week,' before the peace talks move from

pelled a Protestant party, the Ulster North: "No claim, no blame." Democrats, which represented paramilitaries of the Ulster Freedom Fighters at the talks, after the paramilitaries admitted killing three Catholics.

Both Mr. Ahern and Ms. Mowlam said that fear was growing in the North that a new round of sectarian violence was coming. In December and January, eight Catholics and day night, a Catholic known as a drug dealer was killed in an attack in Belfast attributed privately by the police to an IRA front group, Direct Action Against Drugs.

On Tuesday afternoon, a prominent Protestant member of the outlawed Ulster Defense Association was shot and killed. No group has claimed responsibility for the

25 Wine and dine

29 "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" hero

as Egyptian port

36 Lady's man

43 Colonial

44 Like a Dalı

34 Buddy

34 Cut off

Exclusion could move the IRA to

resume its campaign of violence. which could in turn provoke Protestant paramilitary retaliation in the North and here in the Irish Republic.

The exclusion of Sinn Fein was proposed Tuesday by Protestant political leaders on the grounds that the IRA or one of its front groups had killed the two civilians Monday two Protestants were slain. On Mon- and Tuesday. Sinn Fein was admitted in September to the talks, after the IRA declared a cease-fire in July, and the Sinn Fein president. Gerry Adams, pledged, as a condition for his admission, to seek political change only by peaceful

Sinn Fein claims that it does not represent the IRA at the talks, but virtually no one in Northern Ireland,

**CROSSWORD** 

26 "Mefistofek

soprano 27 Attempt

26 In a white

29 Purchase

30 Stalk by the

31 Lost worlds?

32 Don't exist

33 One of the

36 Nose out

38 Upper crust

44 Handle cases

45 7.2 million-

Boyers of baseball

Two weeks ago, Ms. Mowlam, in killings, giving currency to the cyn-Catholic or Protestant, believes this. consultation with Mr. Ahern, exical phrase now familiar in the Mr. Adams has said Sinn Fein is at Mr. Adams has said Sinn Fein is at the talks only on the basis of an electoral mandate, having won 16 percent of the vote in the last general election in May 1997. He denied

that his party had anything to do with the two killings. Mr. Ahern said Wednesday he had received information indicating that the killing of at least one of the two people in Northern Ireland earlier this week was the work of the IRA. He said that "it seems from the information available." the IRA was behind the killings.
In London, David Trimble, head

of the Ulster Unionist Party, the largest in Northern Ireland, said, 'The indications we have is that both murders this week in Belfast were the work of the IRA. Sinn Fein is only at the talks on the basis of an IRA cease-fire.

## A Kurd Is Convicted Of Arson in Germany

HANNOVER, Germany - A Kurdish guerrilla commander was convicted of aragainst Turkish targets in Germany.

A court in Celle imposed a jail term of seven and a half had already spent several ed arson. years in custody.

stantial damage to property in 30 towns across Germany. The police believe that more

The 48-year-old defendant convicted Wednesday was known as Kani Yilmaz but identified in court as "Faysal Arrested in Britain in 1994.

rilla war for a Kurdish homeland in southeastern Turkey.

The court agreed to his re- 15 Terzalease after taking into account son on Wednesday for coortime he had spent in custody
16 Burger garnish dinating a 1993 campaign in Britain awaiting extradi-17 Dot on a map

It found him guilty of co- 19 Burn a bit ordinating the attacks on 20 Opposition? Turkish targets in Germany 23 Novel ending years on the defendant but and convicted him on charges 24"1-2-3" singer agreed to release him as he of serious arson and attempt-

ears in custody.

The string of attacks recused of heading a terrorist sulted in one death and sub- organization, but prosecutors dropped that charge at the start of the trial last month. In November, the Celle

than 200 accomplices took court sentenced another member of the Kurdistan Workers Party to four and a half years in prison for involvement in the attacks. A second party member was sentenced to three years and nine months in December. he is a former official of the Immigrants from Turkey Kurdistan Workers Party, and their children number

which has fought a long guer- about 2 million in Germany.

Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 11

**ACROSS** 

1 Gurtar attachment

**5** Tell secrets

14 'Family Ties'

(Italian verse form)

18 Augury

45 Carol starter 46 Gained a lap? 47 Poetic pugilisi 48 Deposition? 56 Battle lineup 57 Wahines' wear 58 Syria, long ago 59 Hotel offering

37 Exposition? co Safety, e.g. a secret 61 Score unit 41 Sing the praises 62 Beef on the hoof ES Lot 42 Smart or Smiley 64 Pinnacle

> DOWN 1 Street urchin 2 To boot 3 Sound 4 Relative of a Salchow ≰ Enjoy a

9 Teased

to Blue side

12 Full of energy

13 Hydrocarbon

21 Ship of fuels?

22 Tallbooth

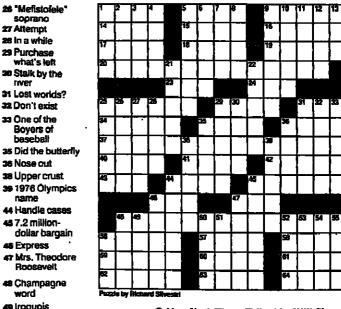
11 Force

dollar bargain 46 Express 47 Mrs. Theodore 6 Last straw word 7 Mass assent a Report of a

49 Iroquois 50 Where Napoleon was

51 Within earshol 52 "Peter Pan" dog 53 Discontinue 54 Go with 55 Payment option, for short

56 Dummkopf



O New York Times/Edited by Will Short:

# The Unanswered Question About Iraq: What to Do About Saddam?

By Joseph Fitchett International Herald Tribune

MUNICH -- Through all the televised demands and diplomatic encounters of the crisis over Iraq, there has been little public debate over a pivotal question that separates the major players in the drama: What to do about Saddam Hussein?

President Bill Clinton and others in Washington have openly relished the prospect of an Iraq without its current dictator. But a possible commitment to

#### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

changing the Iraqi regime goes to the heart of the political and moral problems dividing Washington from France, Russia and other countries resisting the use of force against Baghdad.

These countries, like some Arab governments, often say publicly that a U.S.-led attack on Iraq, backed by Britain and others, would not destroy his capacity to build advanced weapons and could strengthen his appeal as a man who defies the West.

In private, many of these critics worry that a massive, sustained attack could end up by toppling the regime, perhaps splintering the nation territorially and making a martyr of Mr. Saddam.

provide the necessary motivation for Mr. Saddam to negotiate seriously. U.S. and British readiness to smite Iraq

has forced Mr. Saddam to listen, and he is

terms for opening up suspected weapons sites to inspection, senior American,

The United States and Britain are insisting that Iraq obey Security Council resolutions and allow UN inspectors into

French and British officials say.

all suspect sites with no limitations. It is the Russians, through Foreign Minister Yevgeni Primakov and his

deputy, Viktor Posuvalyuk, who are doing the serious negotiating. While Mr. Saddam has not yet given them a sat-

isfactorily clear pledge to open the sites, including so-called presidential palaces, to the UN Special Commission, or Unscom, he appears to be budging,

'Iraq has moved, however inadequately,

and under the pressure of imminent force,

the Iraqis are continuing to move, although

still inadequately," said a senior NATO-country official deeply engaged in the issue. "And the chances of Saddam continuing to

Officials are unanimous in empha-

sizing that Iraq's current proposals, as Foreign Secretary Robin Cook of Britain

Continued from Page 1

and was concentrating now on the show-

down with Iraq.
Mr. Clinton has vehemently denied

the allegations against him, but has de-

clined to discuss details. Some of his

spokesmen are reluctant to talk about the

case or involve themselves in it, saying they fear legal entanglements and at-

tomeys' fees if called to testify about it.

not be required to testify against him.

She remains free to speak publicly in his

defense, and she has done so now on

several occasions, once lashing out at his

detractors as part of a "vast, right-wing

her daughter. Ms. Lewis, Ms. Lewinsky's

mother, spent several hours Wednesday before the 23-member grand jury here.

After a fruitless attempt to fight the sub-

Her testimony could be almost as im-

There is no legal exemption, however, to prevent a mother from testifying about

сопѕрігасу.

The president's wife, however, can-

however slightly.

Mr. Clinton appears to hat the table any overt U.S. atter throw Mr. Saddam, citing the ales any authorization from the Unit tions. Even Republican congre-leaders who have sought to the war aims in this direction have from publicly pressing the parently to avoid being acceptable olating U.S. laws barring the as nation of foreign leaders.

As it tries to consolidate an international coalition, the White House has kept the public focus on finding ways to anne UN inspections and prevent the on to Arab capitals this week, or regime from building and using As if to emphasize the difficulties of making Mr. Saddam renounce advanced Iraqi regime from building and using

But Richard Perle, a former Reagan administration official, shattered this diplomatic veneer at a Munich security meeting this weekend when he said: 'Hopefully, I'm not the only person in this room who thinks so, but I'm probably the only one to say that I hope there

is no diplomatic solution with Iraq."
In Mr. Perle's view, coaxing can never persuade Mr. Saddam to cooperate with UN arms inspections now — and even less so with subsequent long-term monitoring. The Clinton administration shares this analysis enough to believe that bombing may be the only way to derail Mr. Saddam's military drive, perhaps permanently.

PACE: Talk of War Aimed Mainly at Making Diplomatic Progress

without any no-go sites.

Continued from Page 1 said Tuesday in Parliament, "fall well strongly against "misplaced concrete-short of our requirements that any agree-canada and Australia, is intended to ment should be convincing and should need to do," he said. enable Unscom to resume its work with-

now beginning to negotiate some of the dam had a history of backing down from Nagano and the 375th pilgrim arriving in

military action would run from the week

March, when the million or so Muslims

who make the annual pilgrimage, or hajj,

to Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia

CLINTON: First Lady Says Scandal Will 'Dissipate Over Time'

49, is said to be a confidante of her

to those who have heard secretly taped

Ms. Lewis has been told she was

because talks between her attorneys and

Mr. Starr's office over full legal immunity

for her have been revived, or because the

independent counsel has decided to pur-

sue other avenues more extensively be-

fore moving to the woman who poten-

binding agreement with Mr. Starr's office

tially is his most important witness.

and in public statements.

and her erstwhile friend, Linda Tripp. To testify.

begin to assemble.

confrontation, "and we welcome the Saudia Arabia."

out restrictions, without deadlines and Olympics and the hajj is amorphous. It's

ton and the other permanent members of the Security Council agreed to a Russian-brokered solution that soon proved illusory, leading to the current impasse.

illusory, leading to the current impasse.

This time Washington and London are following a two-sided strategy to any inspection or the makeup of the

ensure that every possible diplomatic inspection of the inakeup of the inspection of

endless, officials caution. They do not stitute other inspectors as a way to cir-

of Feb. 22 — after military forces are in place and the Winter Olympics are over — through the end of the third week in people go in with Unscom, it must be

potentially a subject of the Starroffice of U.S. District Judge Susan Webber investigation. Wright turned down a request Tuesday

fidavit in the Jones case that she did not scheduled May 27 date of the Jones trial,

have an affair with Mr. Clinton! The Ssaying the March date sought by pres-

president has denied such an affair, both idential lawyers could hinder preparation

Ms. Lewinsky's appearance before the lawyers had filed a request asking that she grand jury could have been delayed either reconsider her ruling excluding evidence

in a deposition for Mrs. Jones's lawyers; for the case by Mrs. Jones's attorneys.

Ms. Lewinsky has sworn in an af- by Mr. Clinton's attorney to move up the

dispute that the most likely window for current the organization.

But Mr. Cook also said that Mr. Sad- between the last flag going down at

The U.S. arsenal poised for attack in ficials said in Munich, adding that Iraqi the Gulf contains new bombs that could minorities, with Western encouragement, destroy deep underground "command and control" bunkers of the type that Mr. Saddam may use for refuge — although he would not personally be a target. And U.S. officials confirmed that Mr.

erie's provocative proposal, which calls for Washington to change its war aims to target Mr. Saddam's regime, was quietly discussed by a dozen congressional lead-ers and Defense Secretary William Cohen in the corridors of the Munich security meeting he attended before flying

weapons, Mr. Cohen, departing from his prepared text in Munich, said that Iraq had started seeding tracts of farmland with castor oil plants. Innocuous-sounding, the crop is actually part of a fanatical drive for biological weapons, Mr. Cohen said, because the castor oil beans can be treated to produce a deadly toxin, ricin.

Trying to put in place a more com-pliant Iraqi regime raises major prob-lems, U.S. allies point out. Even if successors emerge, the turmoil of a military strike and subsequent power struggle, they argue, could dismember Iraq, with Turkey and Iran taking parts.

These risks have declined, U.S. of-

"We won't be stopped by the

Without Unscom inspectors, these

clear they cannot interfere with Un-

Meanwhile, in Little Rock, Arkansas,

The judge also said that Mrs. Jones's

In another development, Marna Mc-

reconsider her ruling excluding evidence

about Ms. Lewinsky from the civil trial.

Clendon, the prosecutor of Howard

County, Maryland, where Ms. Tripp

lives, said Wednesday that she would not

make a decision on whether Ms. Tripp

violated Maryland law by making the

too specific to say the window comes

might rally to almost any leader who promised to replace Mr. Saddam's tyranny. Tehran might even tolerate a naval embargo on Basra that would cut off the oil smuggling that brings Iraq's ruling clique an estimated \$1 billion a year.

In addition, there is some evidence that Russian objections to a U.S.-ledattack on Iraq are becoming controversial in Moscow. Mr. Primakov's moves to find a dip-

lomatic solution are welcomed by Russians who resent their nation's disappearance from the Middle East. And a UN deal with Mr. Saddam would hasten the day when Moscow could start re-covering \$7 billion it is owed by Bagbdad, mainly from Soviet industrial and reapons sales during the Cold War era. But Konstantin Eggert, an Izvestia

sians think that Mr. Primakov's attempts feet of concrete to deal with Mr. Saddam will end in A combinated humiliation for Moscow.

French objections, according to diplomats in Paris, are rooted in concerns about the future. France could benefit in new oil business with Iraq if and when UN sanctions are lifted. For the moment, Paris is willing to gamble on Iraq—and pons of mass destruction has sent a

chill through French-German relations. Washington may need to reassure allies that it can do enough damage militarily to control the aftermath. Already, the United States is assembling enough firepower to set back Iraq's war in-

dustries by several years.

Among the U.S. surprises for the Iraqi leader is a new model of laser-guided weapons -- 5,000-pound glide bombs known as GBU-28s - that can send the worst one is doing nothing or so little correspondent, said at the meeting in known as GBU-28s — that can send the worst one is doing nothing or so litt Munich that a growing minority of Rusmassive payloads blasting through 12 that it amounts to nothing," he said.

A combination of glide bombs, with

a communion or gauge comins, with good intelligence obtained from UN inspectors and other sources, might enable the U.S. Air Force to destroy much of Iraq's weapons establishment—and perhaps kill Mr. Saddam in an airstrike. In Iraq. Takrit, the village that is Mr Saddam's birthplace and stronghold on Mr. Saddam—even though France's would seem a natural hiding place for apparent indifference to the issue of forbidden weapons caches and therefore a prime target for leveling — with some chance that the rubble might buty Mr.

Saddam himself. When U.S. officials air such contin gencies privately, their French and Russian colleagues often shrink with apprehension. But Washington cannot afford to be paralyzed by uncertainty, Brent Scowcroft, a former national security council chief said in Munich.

"We have got only bad choices, but



Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz announcing Wednesday that Iraq was ready to open eight presidential sites.

#### IRAQ: Clinton Rejects Baghdad Offer of Limited UN Inspections

#### Continued from Page 1

scom's work, and Unscom has to be Under the proposal, the sites would be under the control of Richard Butler," surveyed by special teams under the Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic.

Koß Annan, for up to 60 days.

"I am pleased that all three countries have announced that they are prepared to sold CNN. "It should not be the egin to assemble.

Unscom's chairman, who works directly
But a senior American official argued for the Security Council.

On Tuesday, he indicated that Ms. of a peaceful resolution. "There's a dedaughter's. The two discussed the pur- Lewinsky would testify and would not sire on the part of the United States to ported affair with Mr. Clinton, according invoke her Fifth Amendment right to have a diplomatic solution," he said, avoid self-incrimination, if prosecutors "but we haven't made much progress

conversations between Ms. Lewinsky obtain a court order requiring her to toward a diplomatic solution. Meanwhile, General Anthony Zinni, commander of U.S. forces in the Middle' East, said the force of warplanes and ships in the Gulf was now virtually ready, although there were still "a few

more pieces to put in." Speaking as he traveled with Defense Secretary William Cohen around the military force, along with Britain, which Gulf to put the last touches to military plans and test diplomatic support, he said: "I would say we're within a week OF SO.

process of seeking U.S. Senate approval further suffering by the Iraqi people.

for the proposed expansion of the North On Wednesday, Spain said that the Atlantic Treaty Organization to include

should military action prove neces-sary." Mr. Clinton said, referring to the possibility of a strike against Iraq.

Washington garnered welcome allied support for an attack on Baghdad's illicit weapons systems should it continue to deny the inspectors access.

Italy, Spain, Denmark and Germany firmed up at least political backing for an attack, which has drawn only lukewarm support among Arab states and been strongly opposed by Russia and China. Canada and Australia said this week

they would be prepared to contribute to a has sent attack planes and an aircraft carrier to the Gulf. But Russia, which has been trying to

r so." mediate a solution, and China still
President Clinton made his remarks at strongly oppose using force, as do most ceremony to mark the start of the Arab countries, saying they want to avoid out Friday for a weeklong recess.

only way out of the crisis was for Mr. Saddam to comply fully with UN weapons inspections. If it did not, then Madrid said it would stand with its

NATO ally, the United States. Italy said it would not rule out use of its air bases in the event of a U.S -led support" should Washington attack, although it stopped short of offering to

contribute to a military force. A NATO source said that certain allies were "exchanging information on their national positions" at NATO headquarters but were not conferring as an alliance "It is clear that we do not seek a NATQ involvement in this crisis because we see the widest possible handling through the United Nations," he said.

The leader of the Democrats in the U.S. Senate, Tom Daschle, said he expected a resolution to come before the Senate on Thursday giving Mr. Clinton support to carry out the military strike. But Mr. Daschle said he did not expect the House to vote on such a resolution before going

#### poena, she is testifying under a grant of limited immunity that protects her from Ms. Lewinsky's lawyer, William Ginsburg, was expected to file a motion asking tapes without Ms. Lewinsky's knowledge. Ms. McClendon said she was reprosecution based on her testimony. a court to enforce what he said was a ferring the case to the Maryland state prosecutor, whose office was designed

#### portant as Ms. Lewinsky's. Ms. Lewis, to provide Ms. Lewinsky immunity. to be "independent and nonpartisan."

#### Continued from Page 1

and the Philippine peso, which rose more than 4 percent to 37.57 pesos to the

Foreshadowing the problems of unemployment that will hit throughout the region, the South Korean won - the only currency to fall - was brought down as powerful unions threatened a general strike on Friday to stop layoffs.

Market approval for the Indonesian currency board stems from the stability it would give the rupiah and the way it removes political interference from monetary policy by essentially closing

A currency board would legally bind the rupiah to other currencies, probably the dollar, at a stated rate of exchange, thereby coupling Indonesia's monetary policy to decisions taken in Washington by the Federal Reserve Board.

Currency boards, which are in place in Hong Kong, Argentina and several other economies, hold onto a reserve of dollars or other currency equivalent to the national money supply. When any local currency is converted into dollars, the national money supply shrinks, forcing banks to pay higher rates of interest.

Critics doubt that Indonesia has sufficient reserves to back a currency board

fully.
They also warn that Indonesia's already struggling banks would be unable to pay high interest rates and that strict controls would have to be in place to stop a rush for dollars when the system

was put into place.
The punishingly high interest rates could also hurt economic growth just as the country is attempting to regain mo-mentum. "With no central bank guar-

is a risk that panic withdrawals will start all over again," Mr. Eschweiler said. Advocates of the currency board admit that it is not a perfect solution, but

say that it offers a way to stop the volatility afflicting Asian currencies. The currency board would create some problems, but at least you have the possibility of things getting better," said

Neil Saker, head of regional economic research at SocGen Crosby Securities.

Mr. Saker added that only when countries adopt currency boards do they gain the stability needed to settle payments for trade in local currencies, a concept being promoted by Prime Minister Ma-hathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia.

Last week Mr. Mahathir toured Southeast Asia to push for the use of local currencies instead of spending pre-

While he received a polite welcome from his hosts, officials from other Southeast Asian countries privately admit that they are discouraging a plan that economists and currency traders say makes little sense.

"We have tried to explain it to Ma-hathir," the commerce minister of a Southeast Asian country said in a recent interview, requesting anonymity. "In the current situation, trade in your own currency just amounts to barter."

#### **■** Confrontation Possible

The announcement in Jakarta sets the stage for a possible confrontation with the International Monetary Fund, the Clinton administration and others involved in Indonesia's international bailout, The Washington Post reported from

The plan has evoked consternation at

PEG: Indonesian Plan Fuels a Currency Rally Across the Region anteeing deposits if banks go under, there the IMF, which is leading the rescue effort for Indonesia, and at the World Bank, which has put up \$4 billion in loans toward the Indonesian bailout.

Officials at the IMF and World Bank fear that the government will not be able to maintain a credible dollar peg until it straightens out problems in its banking system and gains investor confidence that its political situation will remain

The result of a failed peg, officials warned, could be an even deeper crisis.

Continued from Page 1

port's Hebrew teacher, Tova Nayberg, one of the few people from outside the Givati Brigade who went to the cer-

Mr. Rappaport, unshaven and dressed in a thin brown jacket that seemed to offer little protection against the cold, was unable to read the Kaddish, the Jewish mourner's prayer, and let the chaplain do it. When asked to say a word, be was hesitant. "I'll try," he said in Russian. "I'll see if I can. I want to tell all you soldiers: fulfill your duty, of course, but do return home. Please excuse me." The plight of the Rappaports came to light when President Ezer Weizman

went to their hovel to pay a call on Sunday. He and the officers who went

ISRAEL: Shame Over Poverty of a Quiet Immigrant Soldier

In interviews after Sergeant Rappaport's coffin was driven off in an army truck for an El Al flight to Russia, his commanders and comrades tried to explain why they had known so little. "We never suspected his situation,"

said Private Vadim Kutsik, a Russianspeaking member of Sergeant Rappaport's unit who was wounded in the same ambush. "He was very quiet; he never told anyone."

Sergeant Rappaport had applied for financial assistance but apparently con-cealed the fact that his father lost his job as a welder last summer, possibly because he might have been reassigned to a with him were horrified.

"It is a pity we have come to this point, in which the family of a fighter in was serving in a unit assigned to the have wanted, if he could have asked."

the Israel Defense Force is living in such disgraceful conditions," Mr. Weizman declared. If the army did not know, he said, "that is terrible."

Israeli-controlled buffer zone in southern Lebanon. As a combat soldier, Sergeand Rappaport earned about \$170 a month. Ilya and Nikolai Rappaport immigrated

Ilya and Nikolai Rappaport immigrated to Israel three years ago to seek a better life. Ilya Rappapont's wife, Klavdiya, who is not sewish, stayed behind, reportedly because she was very sick. Olga Rap paport arrived in Israel two months ago saying she missed her brother.

Nikolai Rappaport first tried to join the paratroopers, Private Kutsik said and when he failed, he chose a unit in which he could see action. .

"It didn't matter how many hours be worked during the day, or how many hours he spent on guard duty," said hi platoon commander, Lieutenant Assai Rosenfeld, "or even if his comrades did less. He never complained. I heard that

#### INVESTORS: Americans Are Rushing to the Stock Market in Unprecedented Numbers

#### Continued from Page 1

have to put their money in equities if they want anything left for retirement," Melissa Brown, an analyst at Prudential Securities.

Still, the situation could be funda-mentally altered if stocks return to their historical gains of about 8 percent a

Concerns about how investors with bulging equity portfolios will react to a steep or prolonged downum in stock prices have plagued Wall Street for sev-eral years. To allay fears of a panic, Wall Street analysts have often said that in-dividual stock exposure is no greater than it was 30 years ago - though that estimate does not take into account many investment products that are gaining in popularity.

The extraordinary bull market has given few clues about what individuals will really do. For example, the brief but sharp decline in October became a buying opportunity for many.

The last time Americans had their faith in stocks truly tested was the stock mar-ket crash of 1987. Then, stocks accounted for only 13 percent of household assets—half as much as today—and Amer-icans had more money in their savings and checking accounts then in stocks. and checking accounts than in stocks.

'Individuals certainly are taking more risk today than they were taking five years ago," said Scott Lummer, chief investment officer of 401(k) Forum Inc., which sells investment advice on-line.

"A lot of that is for good reasons. But there is a growing set of the populace that looks at the last three years of returns and says. "The market goes up 30 percent a year.' I'm not sure those people really understand the risks involved in stocks, and because of that they may have a lot more money in equities than they should."

How much is enough depends on who is talking. Wall Street professionals usually put the ideal portion of stocks at about 60 percent of one's financial assets. Some individuals go much further.

In quarterly reports over the past two years. Abby Joseph Cohen, the stock market strategist at Goldman, Sachs & Constant and the stock was another period of very low inflation. Co. and one of the leading bulls on Wall Street, has noted that Americans have been increasing their stock investments in recent years as inflation has waned and as baby boomers save more for retirement Bul, she says, the percentage of their financial assets in stocks "remains well

below the levels of the late 1960s." The analysis by The Times shows that when all indirect stock holdings are included, stocks account for 43 percent of household financial assets, up from 39 percent in 1968, and 28 percent of total household assets, up from 26 percent in

The numbers are higher than at any time since the end of World War II. But because the Fed data extend only to 1945, comparisons with earlier periods are difficult. The shift has, nonetheless, been clear

over the past 50 years.

stable-to-declining interest rates and de cent corporate profits. We had a good market, the economy was in good shape and unemployment was low.

In short, there was no place other than stocks to put your money if you wante to earn any return at all, said H. Bradle Perry, former chairman of and now consultant to David L. Babson & Co., Cambridge, Massachusetts, manager of the Babson mutual funds. "There were no bond mutual funds at the time, and the money market fund was just com

onto the scene," Mr. Perry said.
Few people who were around on Wal
Street in 1968 need to be reminded wha lay ahead. The market lost nearly on third of its value over the next months, and by the end of 1970, stock had fallen to 20 percent of household assets from 26 percent two years earlied As it turned out, stocks were just warm But the late 1960s "was a very similar ing up for a lengthy bear market."

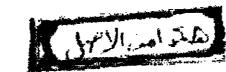
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feet of concrete,

Immigrant Soldier

#### **Opening NATO's Door**

As the U.S. Senate moves to the the new democracies, leaving NATO enlargequestion of ratifying NATO enlargement, the debate is in a curious place. It is generally accepted that adding Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to the 16-nation alliance will be approved by well over the necessary twothirds when the vote comes, probably in the spring. Yet several years of intense discussion have not removed all serious doubts about the step. Even among supporters, misgivings about adding

further members later are evident. There is a moral heart to the case for enlargement, and it is to bind the democracies, refreshing the old, strengthening the new. The first three candidates have demonstrated that they are committed to assuming alliance responsibilities. Their accession would, as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright put it on Monday, "make us all safer by expanding the area of Europe where wars do not happen." The resulting increments of stability would benefit not only NATO members but also the Russians, who remain opposed to the development but are unable to stop it.

The serious American objection to enlargement comes from strategists who fear the political and military dilution of an alliance once focused laser-like on territorial defense against a single dangerous foe. These strategists would have the European Union do the main work of easing the path of

Lawyers' Windfall

Even before tobacco settlement money has reached public treasuries, some members of Congress are up in arms over the potential fees that private lawyers might reap for legal work on suits brought by 40 state attorneys general to recover Medicaid costs arising from tobacco-related illnesses.

One House bill would limit private lawyers' fees in any national tobacco settlement to \$150 an hour. A Senate bill would set an even lower limit of \$125 an hour. Those amounts seem unfairly low for legal work of great

national importance. But in state litigation against the tobacco companies, some lawyers clearly stand to make astoundingly high fees. In Texas, Governor George Bush is fighting a fee contract that would pay some 130 private lawyers involved in the case 15 percent of the \$15.3 billion settlement between Texas and the tobacco industry, or \$2.3 billion over 25 years. In Florida, a state judge has criticized as unconscionably high a fee agreement that would pay private lawyers 25 percent of a \$11.3 billion settlement, and has sent that case into arbitration.

These high amounts naturally fuel resentment toward the lawyers, but they can argue that the contracts they financial risk that the states themselves refused to take. In fact, a U.S. district court judge in Texas recently ruled that the fee arrangement there was reasonable given the difficulties of the

case and the risks involved. Now that three states have reached settlements and Congress is contemplating a \$368 billion national settlement with the industry, it is easy to forget what long shots these cases were. No one had ever sued tobacco

and its huge residual nuclear resource. But that would leave the now free pieces of the old Soviet empire marooned in strategic ambiguity. The new democracies need better and deserve it. The EU should move more quickly but cannot fairly be asked to satisfy the full range of their wish to be of the West. Their insecurity could rub events raw and unsettle the region.

The different currents of resistance to enlargement meet in common opposition to taking in any more than Central Europe's favored three. This is the impulse behind suggestions of a legislated "panse." Such a maneuver, tying the hands of executive-branch foreign policymakers, is a truly bad idea. It could generate nervousness verging on desperation among the un-favored of Central Europe, and tempt

others to throw their weight around. The better way surely is, with Secretary Albright, to leave the NATO door open. Other democracies, as they meet the rigorous political as well as military standards for alliance membership, will then be able to assert their claim to be brought into the charmed circle. Time will let the allies show that enlargement, far from simply moving a military bloc menacingly closer to Russia's borders, calms the region as a whole.

\_THE WASHINGTON POST.

companies for public health costs before, and, given the industry's scorched-earth tactics and record of victory in lawsuits, the likelihood of winning seemed small. State legislatures were not willing to spend tens of millions of taxpayer dollars pursuing these untested claims.

Instead, nearly every state in this litigation turned to outside counsel, typically with a contingency fee arrangement where the lawyers work without pay but receive a percentage of the money recovered if they win. The private lawyers also have to pay all the expenses, like fees for medical experts, travel, deposition costs and the staff needed to collect and analyze millions of pages of documents. In Texas, the lawyers spent more than \$40 million preparing for trial, an amount that they stood to lose if they did not prevail.

That level of investment and lawyerly skill should be compensated generously. Still, a question arises. When does generous become shocking to the

The courts have well-recognized anthority to review the fairness of fees and awards and to revise the underlying contracts in order to protect the parties to the suit and the public interest. Our sense is that the Texas judge probably leaned too far in favor of the Unanticipated multibillion-dollar fees in cases based on public suffering are bound to create a backdash.

One lesson that is even clearer is that some attorneys general erred in not imposing a cap or a sliding scale that reduced the percentage on huge judgments. It is possible to guarantee that most of the money goes to the public, and still leave the lawyers plenty of room to get rich.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

#### Other Comment

#### Whether to Bomb Iraq

At the World Economic Forum, Egypt's foreign minister, Amr Moussa, was blunt: Egypt is opposed to U.S. military action in Iraq. "We believe that military action should be avoided, and there is room for political efforts," he said. If such action is taken, there would be considerable fallout in the Arab world.

Mr. Moussa says the question of lraq's possession of chemical and biological weapons must be pursued. But this requires cooperation with Iraq.
If the United States attacks, he said.

it will be difficult to continue UN inspections and monitoring. "You will be committing a major mistake - military action closes all avenues."
Mr. Moussa harked back to an idea

he has pushed of establishing a zone free from weapons of mass destruction - a way to force Israel to give up its nuclear weapons. "We are against the acquisition of biological and chemical

or nuclear weapons," he said.

He said it would it be easier for Egypt to cooperate with the U.S. administration if there were progress

on the peace process. What does he want the United States to do? "Bring the government of Israel to implement what they have signed and agreed on, land for peace."

Returning to the Iraq crisis, he said:
"There is room for a political solution. Bear in mind the repercussions in the area." If the United States bombs, he said, there will be Iraqi victims. He asked: "What happens if the public sees a decisive move on the part of the U.S. toward Iraq but not toward Israel?"

— Lally Weymouth, writing in The Washington Post.

It is all too clear what the character of [a European Union] common foreign and security policy would con-stitute. Principle would hardly be at a premium. In its place there would be an insular approach and isolationist in-stinct that invariably preferred appeasement to intervention. This has already been apparent from Baghdad to Bosnia to Burundi. We have seen the future and it shirks.

#### stunning reversal of a half-century of American efforts to guide the Sandis to

Clinton Hems and Haws Toward Retreat on Iraq

MUNICH — The Clinton admin-istration has edged back from threats to inflict maximum military damage on Iraq and its weapons of mass destruction, hoping that a final round of diplomacy will succeed. But Washington's retreat actually under-mines the slim chance that Saddam Hussein will do the last-minute deal that Bill Clinton seeks.

The confused words and deeds of President Clinton's national security team during the past week reinforce Nimitz, the Independence, is much accounts from three people who have privately discussed the Iraqi crisis with the president.

Mr. Clinton appears to be veering back and forth from day to day, agonizing over options that range from a spine-breaking aerial assault that would inevitably produce heavy civilian casualties, and some U.S. losses, to an essentially cosmetic attack that would minimize Arab and European criticism of American actions.

The stage is thus set for a characteristic Clinton compromise of splitting the difference, settling on a middle course that will do no great harm to either him or Saddam

Iraqi civilian casualties are uppermost on Mr. Clinton's mind, followed by his expectations of Arab condemnation of American strikes, according to his interlocutors. It is his aides, not the president, who bring up the threats that Saddam's continued survival in Iraq represent for his neighbors and the 30,000 U.S. troops now in the region.

His indecision, and his distraction with the Lewinsky affair, prevent his Iraq crisis team from projecting the kind of determination and resolve that George Bush and Jim Baker showed in assembling a significant international coalition to fight, and bear the costs of, Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

Mr. Bush understood that the Europeans, Arabs, Russians and Japanese would join only if they saw that he had already decided to use overwhelming force. Mr. Clinton's decisions in recent days communicate the opposite message — his team gives priority to keeping together a weak political coalition, By Jim Hoagland

not to preparing to inflict maximum damage on Iraq.
Defense Secretary William Cohen.

signaled this on a weekend trip to Munich, where he let it be known that the aircraft carrier Nimitz was returning for scheduled maintenance in Norfolk, Virginia, rather than staying on duty in the Gulf. The carrier that replaces the

older and packs far less firepower. Mr. Cohen then told reporters that he would not ask Saudi Arabia for permission to stage strikes from U.S. bases in the kingdom, even though doing so would increase the destructive power

persuasiveness, the determination or vincing solution.

This has led to a drumroll of statepletely on board against Saddam is a ments in recent days lowering U.S.

right decisions at crunch time.

Mr. Cohen compounded his problems with a poetic but unfocused

presentation to defense ministers and others eathered at the Munich Conference on Security Policy.

Discussing Saddam's weapons of mass destruction, he noted that "a poison that kills" can be extracted from 'six or seven castor beans," the source of castor oil. "They are growing hondreds of acres of castor beans" in Iraq, he added. Listeners wondered if he was suggesting that the United States would soon be bombing bean fields in the name of nonproliferation.

With the president undecided, his aides are forced to make and then back away from their own verbal flourishes.

As Mr. Cohen did with the castor beans and with his display of a bag of majustify unpopular actions.

Mr. Cohen's preemptive admission that Mr. Clinton's team lacks atthemediate to make and then back away from their own verbal flourishes.

As Mr. Cohen did with the castor beans and with his display of a bag of majurary anthrax on television three months ago, presidential aides highlights.

goals: promising not to try to overthrow Saddam, not to use large numbers of ground troops under any imaginable if circumstances; and not to finish with " this problem once and for all.

One goal of the strikes now being 1 planned is to put Saddam on notice that " 'we would be prepared to act again" il when Iraq rebuilds weapons facilities ?! that are destroyed this time, Clinton national security adviser Sandy Berger said on television on Sunday.

Mr. Berger's assessment of the will-ingness of U.S. taxpayers to support the costs and risks of endlessly whacking \ Saddam is more optimistic than mine, especially as the level of noncooperation of the Saudis and other Arabs in the current operation sinks in.

The Clintonites think that diplomacy:

may still save them. They are prepared to sacrifice military effectiveness, and to say so in public, to support diplo-macy and to maintain a deceptive appearance of allied unity.

That course guarantees that they will et neither effective diplomacy nor ef- '1 fective military action.

#### In Tehran, Potential Allies for American Action Against Saddam

OFFICIALLY, Iran opposes any U.S. military action against Baghdad. This was also Tehran's position in 1991, when clerics and Foreign Ministry officials were more than happy to watch CNN broadcasts of American forces pummeling the Iraqis.

In private, Iran's clerics don't mince words about Saddam's insatiable aggressiveness. They loathe him, blaming him for killing nearly a million transans during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. In the early and mid-1990s, the mullahs supported the Iraqi National Congress, an Arab and Kurdish opposition

from the CIA. Iran's assistance was not huge, but it was constant. According to members of the Iraqi opposition, Tehran wanted contact with the CIA in northern Iraq. The White

coalition, which also received money

between the Iranians and the Iraqi opposition, but wanted nothing further. Iranian and U.S. intelligence officers who were living cheek by jowl in northern Iraq never talked to one another.

If the Clinton administration is serious about supporting indigenous opposition to Saddam, it should explore the possibility of working with Iran.
Tehran's support could prove invaluable. Iran and Iraq share a long, porous border, tactically more important than Iraq's borders with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait or Turkey. The majority of iraq's soldiers are now stationed in the southern half of the country, not too far from the Iranian border.

With Tehran's help, guerrilla and intelligence operations could more effectively penetrate central and southern Iraq. With a real safe haven in the north, House did not block limited cooperation protected by American airpower and

well-armed Kurdish and Arab forces, the Iraqi opposition could reach out to 7 troops who want to defect and help

them cross the Iranian border.

Iran could help the Iran National Congress establish closer ties to the Hakim, the most prestigious traqi clerical family, who have been living in certile in Tehran. Within a year or two, an opposition supported by the United States could become far more than a nuisance to Saddam.

The mullahs have their own Iraqi favorites, whom they would seek to advance. But that is largely a post-Saddam chess game. The mullahs no 1 longer have the revolutionary will or ' the money for Persian imperialism.

- Edward G. Shirley (the donym of a former case afficer in the CIA's Directorate of Operations), commenting in The New York Times.

#### Who Runs Japan? Well, Certainly Not the Government\*

TOKYO — The clamor around the world urging the Japanese government to help al infighting, and whatnot. But rescue Asian finances and act to prevent a global economic

of an institution capable of initiating and implementing major
new policies.

International organizations and sundry commentators are at the moment. In the end it will e global economy caus by Japanese banks in trouble, and about a Ministry of Finance contributing to a deepening slump. A handful of Japan specialists have understood for some years that the methods of Tokyo's financial mandarins could well trigger a worldwide

But attempts to convince Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of the seriousness of the situation are meaningless. He already knows. International commentary focusing on him as a world leader whose decisions will count the most in shaping global financial developments

s ludicrously unrealistic. Reporters trying to make sense of Japanese politics have over the years found plenty of apparent causes for governmental inertia: opposition par-

ties, angry housewives, faction-

By Karel van Wolferen

the problem is structural. Japan lacks what most people crisis is inappropriate. Such assume to be an automatic at-pleas are addressed to an entity tribute of a political system: a assume to be an automatic atthat does not exist.

The country has no govern—ity. There is no person or in-

capable of helping its neighbors

rightly worried about the drag have difficulty rescuing itself. The anomaly of the world' second largest industrial power not being run by anyone --- all the more scary right now -- is not a new phenomenon. But factors encouraging blindness to the obvious have so far outweighed the urge to come to terms with it.

> The absence of a government is something for which traditional diplomacy makes no allowance, and which most of the world's media cannot digest. It has become an accepted

regularity in world politics that Japan vanishes from the stage as soon as an international situation calls for initiatives.

Pesky economic conflicts aside, the United States has been happy enough that Japan always complies with U.S. foreign policy priorities and con-

government capable of rethinking national interests might well constitute a bigger embarrassment for Washington.

Scholars who have grappled with the puzzle of Japanese power settled some time ago on the notion of a "conservative coalition" composed of politiically like-minded senior officials, politicians, and industrialists, effectively substituting

for a government. There is little doubt that for me three decades after 1945 there was political agreement about an implicit grand scheme for Japan. The inevitable reconstruction of a war-devastated economy became an unacknowledged policy of limitless expansion of productive capacity

rrespective of profitability. Effective unanimity also supported the vital relationship with the United States, whose protective strategic, diplomatic and economic umbrella was a prerequisite for Japan to function internationally without a

normal government. Japanese bureaucrats have been extremely good at admin-istrative tinkering to stay the course that they set out in the immediate postwar period. But a conservative coalition is nowhere to be found when adtinues to buy big chunks of justing to a changed world re-America's national debt. A quires new policies. Or at least,

I have never uncovered one in tion of the financial system. In the 25 years of my own detective work in Japan.

The discovery, made again most recently by the U.S. Treasury Department, that Tokyo's bureaucrats go their own way, hardly even noticing cabinet ministers, is an advance over earlier illusions. And the Min- gained even more discretionary istry of Finance is rightly being seen by foreign governments and corporations as Japan's most powerful entity.

But this has led to a new this bunch of officials can substitute for a government, a role

way beyond their capacity. Privately, Japanese officials will sometimes confirm that deviating from old policies is next to impossible for lack of central coordinating mechanisms. But in their capacity as diplomats or negotiators they cannot tell the truth. And because they cannot say it, most officials prevent

themselves from believing it. Taking Mr. Hashimoto to task for Japanese inaction may be like blaming Queen Eliza-beth for Britain's political shortcomings, but there is an important difference. Mr. Hashimoto must act as if he is running things. The performance has to be so good that foreigners can be convinced that it is real, and that Japanese can be reassured that their society is at

least somewhat democratic. The Japanese press cooperates by fostering a huge spectacle of make-believe. Relying on this, international reporting consistently distorts Japanese

developments. The ritualistic resignation by Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka on Jan. 28 was presented as an opportunity for a policy change, whereas the point of that exercise was maintaining the status quo at the ministry. Earlier news stories pictured

Mr. Hashimoto as trying to establish political control over the bureaucracy through deregula-

reality, the need for the world's largest pool of household savings to seek higher returns?

abroad has forced financial buil reaucrats to loosen some re<sup>75</sup> strictions, favoring foreign fl.5 nancial institutions. But the ministry has simultaneously control over Japanese banks and securities companies. When applied to Western

politics, the term "theatrical" implies hollowness, whereas misunderstanding: the idea that rituals of make-believe are es-g sential to the maintenance of Japanese power structure. It' survives in its present form be-> cause the play-acting prevents leverage over it.

Some history-minded foreigners believe that only then shock of a collapsing economy will produce a political over haul, rather like Commodore Рету's flotilla in Tokyo Bayıs forcing the issue of Japanese seclusion in 1853.

Quite a few frustrated memais bers of the Japanese elite appeal to wait for just such a hinge of history. But the world can ill. afford a further deterioration of confidence in the Japanese economy. International clamor therefore ought to be urging the government.

There are Japanese political cians who know that future well-being demands establish ing the controls that they are

supposed to exercise. When foreigners stop particles ipating in Japan's grand political ical theater, the politically de ical cisive large-circulation news<sup>ad</sup> papers, which speak with one voice on such matters and have long been in bed with the button reaucrats, might give these politicians a chance.

The writer, an author and former journalist, is a professor's at the University of Amsterdam ... This was distributed by the New 2 York Times Syndicate.

#### sidents from whatever country abroad in the first wave of stuin the United States. tend to vanish from sight when Han Dongfang, the imprisoned leader of the free trade - The Times (London). they are exiled. dents benefiting from Deng IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO ...

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© 1998, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved. ISSN: 0294-8052. Land deporting the Chinese dissident Wang Bingzhang on

Monday, Beijing showed that it has finally learned a lesson: Persecuting well-known political activists harms the image of a state that wants to be an international player.

Mr. Wang, who has been living in Canada and the United States since 1978 when he went Xiaoping's reforms, has been a longtime critic of the Chinese government, especially through his New York-based magazine China Spring. Last month he sneaked back into China under

an assumed name. After contacting a few of the surviving band of dissidents, he was arrested, held for exactly a

week, and expelled. Several of those he met were arrested. One has reportedly been released, but the others are

still detained. For some time, Beijing has been playing the dissident card invented years ago by the So-viet Union, which used to gain brief international goodwill by occasionally freeing someone famous. This was always done

to get something in return. China's most recent example of this was the release in November of Wei Jingsheng. A deal done almost openly, it secured an all-stops-out White House welcome for President Jiang Zemin. Soon afterward came hints that Wang Dan, the plices, in Beijing's eyes — to be International Herald Tribune.

China Plays the Dissident Card By Jonathan Mirsky

> second most famous political prisoner after Mr. Wei, might be freed in order to guarantee a Clinton return visit to Beijing. Other prisoners have been released, like Mr. Wei, for alleged medical treatment. Indeed, al-

most all of China's best known ex-political prisoners are now union movement during Tian-anmen who was freed to fly to Boston for medical attention. attempted to enter China a few years ago, was immediately caught, and was thrust across

the border into Hong Kong, where he remains. Harry Wu, the most famous activist of all, who spent many years in the gulag, also attempted to sneak in three years ago, was caught, heavily sentenced and immediately deported.

But Mr. Han had broken no law; he used his real name to reenter his native land. And Mr. Wu is an American citizen. Wang Bingzhang was merely a green card holder. The U.S.

him, but he had used a false

name to enter China. He could have been tried and convicted. But he had served his purpose for the Chinese authorities. Shadowed by the Public Security Bureau he made it easy for his contacts --- accompinpointed. Some are detained;

more may be arrested. Beijing cannot lose by the policy of getting rid of famous dissidents - not by the firing squad and the gulag but by jetliner. They no longer form a focus for diplomatic acrimony. Like the mythical strongmen who lost their strength when

their feet left the ground, dis-

Exile is also a frightening warning to other Chinese political activists. While a few refuse it when offered, after a few years behind bars, and probably some torture, most finally go abroad.

In the meantime, Beijing can continue to persecute obscure activists like the four poets ar-

rested in Guizhou last month. and the friends of Mr. Wang. China's vast human rights problems at home remain, involving large populations in Muslim Xinjiang and in Tibet. Yet even here, without actually providing any more liberty, the Chinese could win much approval by agreeing to negotiate

with the Dalai Lama, That would look openminded, it would take years, Embassy was inquiring about and China's occupation of Tiber could proceed apace undisturbed by a much muted libertarian cacophony from abroad.

The writer, a former East Asia editor of The Times of London, contributed this comment to the

1898: Russians Jailed LONDON - At the Central

Criminal Court, Vladimir Bourtzeff, journalist, and Klement Wierzbicki, printer, Russian subjects, were charged with soliciting, encouraging and endeavoring to persuade certain persons unknown to murder the Emperor Nicholas II of Russia. The alleged incitements to assassination were contained in a periodical entitled Narodovoletz, which was written by Bourtzeff and printed by Wierzbicki. Bourtzeff was sentenced to eighteen months' and Wierzbicki to two

1923: Mexican Pistols

months' hard labor.

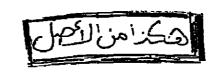
PARIS - |The Herald says in an Editorial:] Once upon a time the United States of America was regarded as "the land of the pistol." Now it is the United States of Mexico. Both the His-

pano-Mexicans and the aborton iginal Mexicans keep the rear volver always handy, and it is C discharged at all moments for joy, or to kill, or through mere ennni. The Mexicans fire off pistols to kill time.

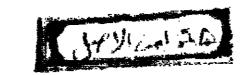
1948: Bourgeois Music

MOSCOW - The leading

composers of the Soviet Union including Dmitri Shostakovich and Serge Prokofieff, were severely castigated by the central tral committee of the Community nist party for writing music which "strongly smells of the" spirit of the current modernistic bourgeois music of Europe and America." In its fourth post-war resolution, the central committee tee accused composers of "antility democratic tendencies." The resolution called for music re-viving the best traditions of the Russian classics which would be have widespread mass appeal



OPINION/LETTERS



# eat on Iraq

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The Australian

#### Against Saddam

well-armed Kurdish and Arabic the brack opposition could reach the stands who was to quest sufdena cross the Iranian border. real family, who have been longin Terrar Within a year of Typesizon arriored in the lie **Cultural** to Subban

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TATE

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candal\_ It will be simple enough to show that Bill Clinton is not the only guy in town who likes to have young female staffers do "clerical tasks" for him. Governmen

Still, it makes me queasy to think of Bill and Hillary's Torquemadas — a vast left-wing

WASHINGTON — I was dream.

The front pages were filled with

time I ... well, never mind about

I had fallen asleep after George Stephanopoulos had ominously

warned on a television news show

that White House allies were con-

sidering the "explosive" strategy of opening up every sexual closet

in Washington — congressmen.

never resign and I think some around him are willing to take everybody down with him," Mr.

A sexual Armageddon, a bed-

rbom doomsday strategy. If Bill Clinton has to have his dirty linen

aired before the House Judiciary

Committee, the Clintonites will

ensure that there is no clean linen

The former Clinton aide, whose

candor about the president's lack

of candor has deeply stung his

fellow War Room veterans, dubbed this the "Ellen Ro-

Kennedy who also happened to be an East German spy," he said. "And Robert Kennedy was charged with getting her out of the

country and also getting John Edgar Hoover to go to the Con-

gress and say, 'Don't you inves-tigate this, because if you do,

we're going to open up every-

This new strategy is even more

"he's not perfect but

brutally disgusting than the Clin-

we're fighting against Starr's fas-

cism and protecting Our Issues' routine. If Mr. Clinton's presi-

dency is damaged, it will be a

season of wrath. An apocalypse of

"She was a girlfriend of John F.

The president said he would

reporters, pundits.

Stephanopoulos said.

thetsch" strategy.

Body's closets.

tonites'

conspiracy — rooting around.

Will they try to pin down the peccadilloes of the veteran report—

Worse, by propagating the er. Helen Thomas? It was bad enough hearing Colorado Gov-ernor Roy Romer's true confes-

## An Armageddon of Dirty Linen By Maureen Dowd

anid stories about — me! Strangers were rifling through my publican representative from closet and leaving with my skel-Georgia? This is just the latest step etons. I was mortified to have the entire country reading about the

down on the Clinton moral escalator. First the feminists do loop-theloops to rationalize the president's

demeaning treatment of women. (Senator Carol Moseley-Braun, Democrat of Illinois, implied on a TV news show that the Monica Lewinsky story could be seen as a triumph of Democratic diversity efforts: "Not so many years ago, a woman couldn't be a White House intern.")

Now, confronted with the prospect of House impeachment hearings on Kenneth Starr's information, the Clintonites are going from defending the president's privacy to threats of invading others' privacy.

Their G. Gordon Liddy fangs are already frightening Republicans, who don't want their bedroom curtains yanked open and who hardly relish the prospect of having Mr. Starr drop his case in their laps.

While the president zooms toward 100 percent approval, gaining four or five points with every damaging disclosure, Republicans sense that the public will not

be as kind to them, given the greater family values hypocrisy on their side of the aisle.

Some in the Clinton crowd foresee a game of chicken, where politicians will have to decide if they should tell about affairs or wait to get caught - just as they did with the touchy baby boomer issues of marijuana and the draft.

They suggest that the sex inquisition, which they prefer to call "the coming dialogue," will help develop cultural norms.

Just as certain weasel phrases sprang up to excuse drug use ("I experimented but I didn't enjoy it') and avoiding the draft ("I did not serve but I did not get in-appropriate help to stay out"), so pols will develop semi-apologies on sex ("I experimented but 1 didn't enjoy it. And she was my own age. I shudder to think of the rush

to confess when the National Conversation on Indecency be-

I shudder even more to think of Representative Dick Gephardt's press conference where he eagerly professes that he's never done anything with anyone of any age at any time. And the really terrifying thing

is - I'll believe him. The New York Times

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



#### Jarring Racial Judgments From a Man of Justice

By William Raspberry

WASHINGTON — "It is curious that I've never discussed it with any black person percentage of them involving rangeless."

The book is organized as a series of vignettes from his life, a large percentage of them involving rangeless. I've ever known. What exactly is hate, and has it to be returned in kind? Can it afflict its victim with a muted form - the kind that doesn't preoccupy, past which one can smile and function civilly? Can the tumor, enlarged and

#### **MEANWHILE**

hardened over time by a weather of ceaseless slights, be benign?

Normal, wouldn't you think, the injured angry soul's retreat inside behind an impenetrable wall of manners. What have I done with my pain? ... White-hot hatred would seem the proper reflex.

"But there is no survival there. In the autumn of my life, I am left regarding white people, before knowing them individually, with irreducible mistrust and dull dislike."

These words, from the very front of Randall Robinson's new memoir, startle me. I have, of course, known angry,

white-hating black folk, including some who will assert that any black person who doesn't hate whites has not been paying attention.

But I have seldom heard the sentiment from people who see themselves as living lives of the mind and spirit, and whose work requires that they operate from a solid moral base because their purpose is to call humanity to justice.

I am, as I say, startled to read the acknowledgment of racebased judgment from Mr. Robinson, founding president of the TransAfrica Forum, a man whom I have admired and who, for years, was America's very conscience on matters relating to Africa and the Caribbean.

I hasten to say that the book, "Defending the Spirit: A Black Life in America," is not about pears, solutions should be found through the expansion of trade. It is hatred. It is about Randall Robinencouraging that many nations are son's ostensibly successful life proposing to expand export credit and his commitment to the cause to struggling Asian economies. of Africans in the diaspora. New liberalization proposals from. It is also about his taken-for-

granted view that anyone --- particularly any black person - who does not agree with his views is either an unwitting dupe or a willing sellout. And it is decidedly about his refusal to bite his lip for

cial slights of one sort or another. It is not, as I fear I have misled you into thinking, a racial diatribe. It is a layered revelation of its

author. He reveals an unexpected adoration for his late older brother, Max, television's first black network news anchor, and a slightly frightening awe of their stern fa-ther, Coach Robinson. He rarely expresses much tenderness except for his present wife. Hazel.

And he reveals a sense of selfcertainty that manifests itself sometimes in childlike I'm-rightand-you're-wrong contentiousness, sometimes in near-prophetic moral clarity. Examples of the latter include his insistence on applying to Africa's black despots the same yardstick by which he measured the champions of South African apartheid.

There is, early in the book, this provocative passage: "Mama and Daddy were the only heroes I've ever had. Not that other, global figures I've come to know in adulthood aren't worthy. But hero appreciation should be born of a close and varied knowledge and must, when healthy, die with childhood."

What does that mean? Maybe this. When the heroic Nelson Mandela first visited the United States, Mr. Robinson got him to agree to attend a fund-raising breakfast for 20 supporters of the then desperate TransAfrica. At the last minute, Mr. Mandela called off the \$5,000-a-plate affair, and Trans-Africa had to return the money.

Mr. Robinson, already miffed that he had had to negotiate the breakfast through a white South African ambassador, was outraged that Mr. Mandela, "the man I'd spent 18 years of my life working to free," would stand him up. And then Mr. Mandela called him to apologize, without further explanation, for the slight.

He told the princely Mandela: "I am angry and deeply hurt. I have never before asked you for anything. Absolutely nothing. And you would do this. If it were not for my organization and its efforts, you might still be in prison.' Randall Robinson doesn't bite

The Washington Post.

#### **Asian Crisis** Regarding "Expect Most of Di-

verse East Asia to Come Storming Back" (Opinion, Feb. 10) by Gregory Clark: Mr. Clark is right to condemn

Western gloating over the Asian economic crisis. However, there is ample justification for Western derision of "Asian values." First, the chimera of common

Asian values was a device invented and used by some leaders to legitimize the authoritarian nature of their regimes and the suppression of civil rights. Indeed, the current financial

collapse exposes the cruel sophistry of the argument that curtailing individual liberties was the necessary and worthwhile price to Worse, by propagating the myth

that certain positive values - like a work ethic - were uniquely Asian, some of Asia's leaders helped turn sions. Do we really want to delve healthy national pride into into the sex life of Bob Barr, Reanti-Western jingoism. As a result,

East-West cooperation in the current crisis has been made more difficult than would otherwise have been the case. Thus while "Asian values" may not have caused the recent collapses, neither will they cause the eventual recoveries. TERESA WYSZOMIERSKI.

Maspeth, New York.

Regarding "Financial Commu-nity Contributed to the Mess, Too" (Opinion, Jan. 10) by Jim

Mr. Hoagland says the world's financial wizards "should be asking if anything in the international financial system itself helped trigger this economic debacle." One thing is that no one knows

what money is worth. Governments print paper and declare its value, but that value is rated only in comparison with other governments' paper, and none of the paper is backed by assets of adequate value

dollar as a safe haven, but the dollar is not only not backed by assets, it is backed by the huge debts and untold liabilities of the U.S. government. By the rules on reserves that are applied to banks, the U.S. government and many others are insolvent. So what are their currencies worth?

IAN FRASER. Madeira, Spain.

Regarding "Storm Clouds Over the Pacific: Beware of Trade Tension" (Opinion, Feb. 5) by Robert G. Lees:

The financial crisis has created an "export or die" situation at the same time that protectionist sentiment is rising in certain industrialized economies. I agree with Mr. Lees that the time calls for clear heads. I would also like to

One, despite the much-touted competitiveness brought about by the depreciation in local currencies,

contribute some reflections.

Brussels and regional economic organizations would also be helpful. HO-YOUNG AHN.

in January 1998 grew by just 1.4

percent over the same month last

year. Why this lackluster perfor-

mance? Possibly exporters con-

front higher costs for imported

parts and raw materials, which are

in the face of an unprecedented

foreign exchange crunch, are not

resorting to protectionist measures. The 1930s should serve as a re-

minder of what can happen when

governments resort to protection-

on in times of economic turmoil.

Difficult as this situation ap-

Two, the Asian economies, even

reflected in their prices.

Ironically, the citizens of the East Asia has yet to experience a world are diving into the U.S. surge in exports. In Korea, exports Korea's delegation to the OECD.

#### **BOOKS**

#### RIVEN ROCK

3 By T. Coraghessan Boyle. 466 pages. \$24.95.Viking.

Reviewed by Dennis Drabelle

I'N such books as "World's End,"
"The Road to Wellville" and now
"Riven Rock," T. Coraghessan Boyle has been injecting new meaning into the term "historical novelist." Instead of taking the grand approach, cramming his canvases with heroes who sport ruffles and carry sabers, he paints in a less exalted home-grown style, and his characters are more apt to be tycoons in suits than conquerors with sashes.

The Road to Wellville," the new

divel's closest antecedent, had to do with the health fads perpetrated by comflake king John W. Kellogg at his spa for the digestively impaired. But where Kellogg wis eccentric, Stanley McCormick, the central figure of "Riven Rock," is quite mad. A scion of the family that got rich on the reaper invented by one of its members, Stanley is so sexually disturbed that he has never been able to consummate relations with his wife, the former Katherine Dexter. He regards all women as whores and himself as a very dirty boy, and if he has any significance beyond his private demonology it is as a product of the two dominant forces of his era, the last quarter of the 19th century and the first balf of the 20th: sexual puritanism

that mansions - strewn across the country. Riven Rock is the name they've given their California outpost overlooking the ocean in Santa Barbara, where Stanley is imprisoned and sequestered from women and subjected to the care of successive psychotherapists for decades main parts, each mained area one of the same of the sa rafe glimpses directly into Stanley's long as the patient wants.) viewpoints of Katherine and Eddie verge of filling the gap left by Stanley's and editor, wrote this for The Wash-O'Kane, a young man who, while acting hopelessness. While he slowly imigton Post.

All of this is conched in the author's words I've never encountered before, of which there are invariably a passel: This time they included napiform, verbigeration, viduity, flagitious and ament. On the other hand, I caught him using the tired adverbial phrase "to beat the band" more than once, and I doubt whether anyone before about 1970 would have said, as Katherine does, We need to talk, Stanley." (More idiomatic for the period - and Katherine's class - would be "We must talk.")

The gifted Boyle is at his best in capturing the flow of complicated action, as in an early set-piece when Stanley breaks away from his captors and runs amok on the train carrying him west into psy-choanalytic exile. Before being subdued, the heir bursts into the dining car and launches himself at a young woman in a scene that is both rollicking and horrifying. (Although the woman suffers some pain and much humiliation, Mc-

Cormick money hushes the incident up.)
If some of Stanley's antics have their comic side, most of the time he is simply pathetic. For the month before that train ride, Eddie recalls, the staff had been "force-feeding Mr. McCornick, the tube down his throat, the mush in the tube, and either he or Nick or one of the and unbridled getting and spending.

Although the McCormicks hail from Chicago, they have houses—no, make other nurses working the patient's throat to be was swallowing and not to be supplied by the was swallowed by the was s to make sure he was swallowing and not asphyxiating on his food." In another episode, the reigning psychotherapist decides to curtail Stanley's lengthy showers. When the water is turned off, Stanley keeps scrubbing away at himself until he is a bloody mess. (Say this much

At times Katherine seems to be on the

as Stanley's bodyguard, gets into proves, suffers relapses and weathers scrapes, most of them involving some one shrink after another, she becomes a combination of booze and women. bian (she has a close female friend; in a enviable style, which is at once graceful, battle with the McCormicks over control erudite and snappy. Whenever I read a of Stanley's treatment, the family levies Boyle novel, I jot down on the flyleaf the the charge but can't make it stick). And though she has ideal grounds for annulment or divorce, the one thing she does not do is give up on Stanley, which endows her with a Penelope-like nobility. But, alas, she is not very colorful, and perhaps wisely Boyle never lets her become his protagonist.

Despite his lusts and binges, Eddie O'Kane is no scene-stealer either. His directness can be a foil to the Mc-Cormicks' convoluted manners and refined diction, and his strong libido contrasts with Stanley's sexual abjectness, but Eddie lacks the sensitivity and perspective to make telling comments on the milieu he stands on the edge of.

And so the novel lacks thrust and focus. Boyle lets us discover how Stanley's state of mind got to be so parlous in reverse fashion, taking us back through time to his and Katherine's courtship and then forward again through their marriage to the point where she realized he needed help. But the etiology of his sickness never quite emerges from a welter of data. The reader rightfully expects a rough explanation to take shape, but though Stanley's peculiarities are brilliantly described, they are essentially a given.

T times the novel seems to have the A times the novel seems to have the makings of tragedy, but almost by definition Stanley is incapable of tragic self-recognition. Perhaps Boyle let him-self be too constricted by the facts of the McCormick case and would have been better off inventing an heir to a great 19thcentury fortune, imbuing him with some of Stanley's traits, and then embroidering on end (the novel is divided into three for Stanley: He may be a masochist, but freely. As written, though streaked with main parts, each named after one of he knows how to get his way. The doctor the author's customary brilliance, "Riv-

Dennis Drabelle, a Washington writer

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#### **BRIDGE** faced Sabine Auken and

2 By Alan Truscott

Mention with the Mention of the Ment FRY few women's partnerships have a claim to being considered the best in the world. One is British: Nicola Smith and Pat Davies, who have two world champidnships each and many Emopean titles. Recently they finished second in the prestigious Macallan Invitational in London. They had a score that would have won in some tother years, and it was the best effort ever by a women's pair in an invitational event of this type, crowded with players of

On the diagramed deal they have claimed.

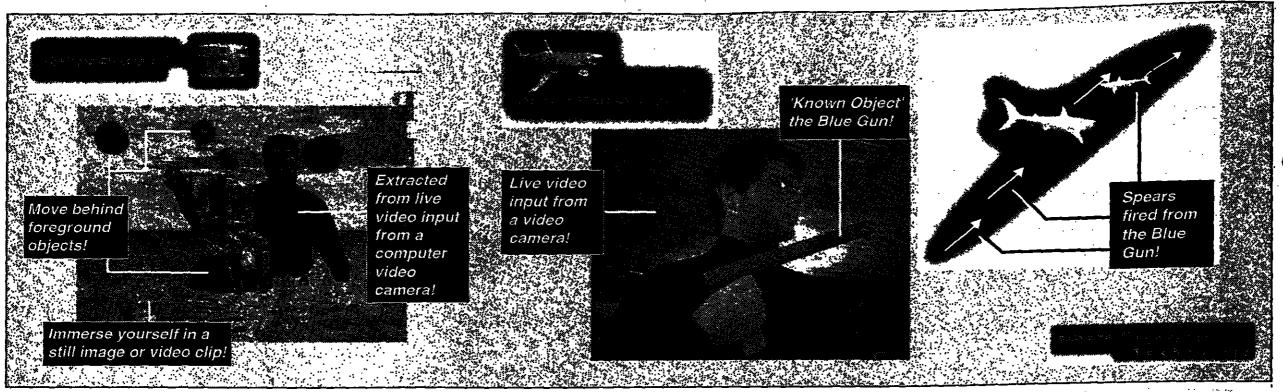
ner. She then shifted to a could deal with that. heart, the only way to give the declarer a problem. A third club lead, for example, would 10, and threw her heart loser East

dummy and South would

South had to win with the Daniella von Amim of Ger- ace, and had an obvious line many, who were also in su- of play: Draw trumps ending perb form, finishing third, in dummy, and hope for an The opening three-spade bid even split. Then she would be crowded the auction, and able to run the clubs and make Smith, as South, landed in the game. But the play in • Q643 five diamonds. Auken led a hearts seemed more consist- VQ98 top club and would have beaten the game if she had shifted to a heart. But from her angle her partner might have held a singleton, so she had a singleton, so she had a singleton diacashed her second club win-mond, and Smith saw that she

SOUTH **♠** ∧ 10 She entered her hand with a East and West trump lead, ruffed the spade The bidding: North have left the heart entry to the on the club queen. Then she 34 ruffed a heart and claimed, Pass making a well-played game.

## **CribTech**



Publicity from Realty Fusion Inc.'s Web site, showing what Free Action technology can do. At left, the user has put a live image of himself in the scene. At right a game in which the software recognizes a toy gum held by the player.

# Human-Computer Interaction: Doing the Jump and Wave at Demo 98

By Stephen Manes New York Times Service

NDIAN WELLS, California — At the Demo conference a couple of Lyears ago, the Next Big Thing was a to display a live image of the user, who on expensive computer systems tricked "Frere Jacques" in which Baldy sang all little thing, the Palm Pilot hand-held can interact with other elements on the out with fancy video hardware rather the parts with a variety of facial exdevice. It created a new product category so successful that competitors have been flattering it with sincere imitation.

At Demo 98 here last week, no Big Thing emerged, and several interesting your arms or jumping up and down.

attractive demonstrations offered creative ways of interacting with computers.

The runaway hit was a technology called Free Action, from Reality Fusion Inc. The technology uses a video camera screen by "touching" them. You can than standard machines with inexpensive pressions brought down the house. burst bubbles, play volleyball with an video cameras. But the demonstration Several vendors demonstrated animated character and deliver body blows to a masochistic clown by waving

estate office put a camera and screen in a synthesized human face called Baldy. the window and let you pick what you The face can disappear to reveal the powanted to see by pointing and waving.

This sort of interaction has been demonstrated before, but almost always was more impressive than the reality.

Another standout was a system from Fluent Speech Technologies. Its software an executive successfully spoke into a products known to be in the works were A more utilizarian demonstration tool kit can help programmers take telephone to accomplish feats like turn-let people interact with computers over lobby all but eliminates nowhere to be seen. This year's most showed what might happen if a real speech, real or synthesized, and mate it to ing on a light and adjusting a thermostat. the telephone, had more success with its potential trysting place.

sitioning of lips and tongue as sounds are produced, which might aid in learning languages. A four-part rendition of

Several vendors demonstrated im- I need to buy today? provements in speech-recognition technology. The low point came right after

"Reminders are open," the computer

Once more, with feeling: "What do I need to buy today?"
"Reminders are open."

"Good-bye," said the system.
Nuance Communications, which makes speech-recognition systems that era in the Chicago Palmer House Hilton-let people interact with computers over lobby all but eliminates that hotel as a

Problems arose with the question, brokerage system that used natural speech "What do I need to buy today?" brokerage system that used natural speech instead of a menu maze. The software instead of a menu maze. The software responded to commands like "Buy 100" shares of International Gluten.

Perceptual Robotics Inc. offered just the thing for voyeurs: the ability to use the Web to steer and zoom robotic cam-With mounting frustration: "What do eras from afar. You get soundless still pictures, rather than video. Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago lets you see what the tigers are up to this very minute; a cam-

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## Battling Software Piracy: Cambridge Makes a Breakthrough and Stirs an Outcry

By John Burgess Washington Post Service

CAMBRIDGE, England -- It's a technique that intelligence agencies have used for years: Park a van filled with monitoring gear near an embassy carry for hundred of yards and identify the and listen for the faint radio signals that software they were running, complete with computers routinely emit when they are serial numbers of each copy. on. Analyze those signals for clues to the data that are on the computers.

Now researchers at Cambridge Uni-

adapt this technology to the fight against software piracy. With special codes written into software, they say, computers could be made to broadcast beacons that would carry for hundred of yards and identify the

company had licensed only two copies of the software, that could become ev- with new anti-piracy techniques. idence on which a court would issue a search warrant.

Ross Anderson, a Cambridge lecturer who is overseeing the project, said the idea originated last year when the chair- Big Brother aspects." A Microsoft Vans run by anti-piracy groups could man of Microsoft Corp., Bill Gates, vispull up outside a company's office and ited the university after his private founcount the number of software signals dation announced a \$20 million

derson said. "They have some reser- pirating software and those legally using vations," he said. "Obviously there are plans to adapt the technology.

would love the university to come up system might be technically feasible. But she noted many practical questions So far, Microsoft isn't enthusiastic on the legal side, such as how the system about the university's approach, Mr. An- would differentiate between companies multiple copies of programs.

Ms. Knight said concerns of privacy spokeswoman said the company had no and consumer rights might make the system unusable for industrialized coun-Emilia Knight, a vice president at tries. But in areas such as East

versity, home of groundbreaking work in emanating from it. If, say, 50 beacons for donation to the school. Mr. Gates told BSA Europe, a trade group that combats Europe, she suggested, where piracy is intelligence over the years, are trying to a particular title were detected but the officials that, among other things, he software piracy, said such an anti-piracy rampant and there is no tradition of such protections, the software signal detect ors might be acceptable.

Richard Sobel, a political scientist who teaches at Harvard University and researches privacy issues, called it "an appalling idea." He added: "If the a nology is there to identify

**ALT** /Commentary



据《《我的《我们的有我的《《中医院·典院·教会《《中国》》中,我们是自己的"自然的我们"的"这一",我的我们的"我们",我们们是一种"我们"。 

PAGE 11

## Scrappy TWA Proves It Still Flies, but Can It Soar?

**US Airways** 

By Barnaby J. Feder New York Times Service

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Tail End

has not really recovered from the

Unlike other airlines, Trans World Airlines

industry's slump in

the early 90's. Here

are TWA's operating

profits compared with

other major carriers.

Figures for 1997 are

for the first three

quarterş,

T. LOUIS, Missouri - Last summer, Wall Street feared that Trans World Airlines was headed for yet another emergency landing in bankruptcy court — its third since 1992. Speculation about bankruptcy has since evaporated, though, as TWA scored impressive gains in efficiency and pulled off a string of refinancing deals that raised nearly \$225 million. Memories of the still-unexplained

explosion of Flight 800 off New York's Long Island in July 1996 have faded. After TWA reported third-quarter earnings that were its best since 1989, its stock soared more than 60 percent, and several analysts added it to their buy lists. The shares were down 43.75 cents at \$11.125 on Wednesday on the American Stock Exchange.

But do not mistake Wall Street's relief for long-term optimism. The company is expected to report a fourth-quarter loss this month and will end 1997 — a year in economy and low fuel prices to record profits — with a sizable loss. TWA can survive, but will it prosper?

"We still have to prove we can make money," said Gerald Gitner, 52, who has led the recovery since being named chairman and chief executive late in 1996.

To gain financial altitude, TWA will have to confound the industry experts. Once the United States' biggest airline, it is now No.7, just ahead of rapidly expanding Southwest.

The common wisdom is that there is no such thing as a lucrative niche for a relatively small carrier such as TWA that is saddled with entrenched unions and the hub-and-spoke structure of the industry giants. In an industry where there is constant talk of mergers and of deals such as the alliance of Continental and Northwest, TWA's name is usually among the last mentioned.

Many analysts and industry insiders see TWA's recent rebound as little more

than the latest evidence that it is almost mpossible to kill an established airline way. Profits will roll in, TWA says, if it when the economy is growing.

One industry joke, both a comment on

TWA's prospects and a backhanded compliment to its survival skills, has it that the airline business in 2025 will consist of three prospering WALL STREET WATCH giants created through mergers

financially strapped 'and TWA."TWA, not surprisingly, has a rosier vision, based on two core assumptions about the nature of the airline business. The first is that the worst battles

of the industry's civil war that followed its deregulation in 1978 are history, leaving TWA and other established airlines organized around impregnable hubs. There's not a whole lot anybody can

do to compete but get a lot better where they are," said Michael Palumbo, TWA's chief financial officer.

The second assumption is that TWA is strategically blessed with its St. Louis hub in the heart of the nation and a strong presence at Kennedy Airport,

way. Profits will roll in, TWA says, if it can beat other airlines at the fundamentals such as on-time service, getting the right planes for each route and marketing plans that reward frequent-flying

full-fare passengers.

Put it together and you end up early in the next century with a flourishing airline, according to Mr. Palumbo. Revenue might be about \$4 billion, not much larger than today and just one-fourth the size of giants such as United Airlines. But if everything goes right, profit margins could lead the industry, Mr. Palumbo said.

Even after TWA's impressive strides in the past year, such a scenario seems far-fetched. But a gradual return to solid profitability at least seems possible.

TWA's most startling gains have been in on-time service. After starting 1997 as the worst performer among America's 10 biggest airlines, it vaulted to first by summer.

See TWA, Page 15

## **Business Software Giant Bids for Services Leader**

#### Computer Associates' Shares Fall After Offer

By Mitchell Martin International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — One of the world's biggest software companies, Computer Associates International Inc., offered about \$9 billion Wednesday for Computer Sciences Corp. in a bid to enter the market for computer services to busi-

If successful, the deal would allow Computer Associates to challenge such companies as Andersen Consulting and Electronic Data Systems Corp. in the growing field of providing assistance to companies that need to integrate computers into their decision-making and management.

Computer Sciences is roughly the third-biggest player in this industry, after International Business Machines Corp. and EDS. In combination with Computer Associates, it could offer big businesses both the necessary software and expertise,

Sanjay Kumar, president of Computer Associates, said in a television interview that the two companies had been talking "since December" but had been unable to agree on terms. Computer Associates is offering \$108 in cash for each of Computer Sciences' approx-

imately 78 million shares. The bid is not exactly a hostile one because, Mr. Kumar said, Computer Associates is not making a tender offer or waging a proxy battle for seats on Computer Sciences' board - yet. He refused to rule out those options but said Computer Associates had never engaged in a hostile takeover and was asking Computer Sciences' mangers and directors to let shareholders decide the matter.

In a letter to Van Honeycutt, the chairman of Computer Sciences, Mr.

Kumar said the price offered was a 35 percent premium on the stock price in mid-December, when the companies began their discussions. Computer Sciences' stock has risen steadily since then, but it still jumped \$11.5625 to close at \$103.75. Computer Associates shares tumbled \$7.75 to \$50.3125.

The stock-price action indicates that investors think Computer Associates will not show immediate gains from the acquisition if the deal goes through. In fact, the hefty price it is offering is expected to dilute its earnings in the near term.

"Strategically," said Paul Dravis of Nationsbane Montgomery Securities in San Francisco, "it is a good move. The question is how dilutive this deal is." Computer Associates would not ad-

dress that issue directly. A spokeswoman said only, "It could potentially be dilutive over a couple of years." So why does Computer Associates, a company that writes programs for cor-

porate computers, want to pay such a hefty price for Computer Sciences?
"Because," Mr. Dravis said, "they have 42,000 professional service staff

that's what they are after." The Computer Associates spokeswoman confirmed that the bid aimed at expanding the company into the services business. She quoted Chairman Charles Wang as saying that the two companies had almost 100 percent over-

lap among clients. Mr. Kumar, in his letter to Mr. Honeyeutt and on television, took pains to point out that Computer Associates was not planning layoffs. The letter promised stock options and other incentives to "key managers and employees." It also said Computer Associates "was com-

See DEAL, Page 12

## Bank of England Signals Rate Rise to Stem Inflation

International Herald Tribune LONDON - The Bank of England s to Microsoft signaled Wednesday that it was likely to raise interest rates to head off potential inflation brought on by Britain's buoyant

economy and low unemployment rate.

The central bank voiced its concerns as the government reported that unemployment fell by 12,300 persons to 1.398 million in January, or 5 percent of the work force. It was the 23d consecutive monthly decline in the jobless rate, which is among the lowest in Europe and well below the 12 percent rates prevailing in Germany, France and Italy.

The pound rose sharply in anticipation of higher rates after the central bank, in its quarterly inflation report, cited signs of an inflationary rise in wage settlements at the start of this year. Average earnings won by workers in private companies are rising at a rate of more

than 5 percent a year, the bank said. "The odds are that a further rise in interest rates will be necessary to hit the inflation target," said Mervyn King, a member of the bank's Monetary Policy

dicate that Britain's economy has not been slowed as much as expected by the five quarter-point rate increases over the last nine months, to the current level of 7.25 percent, or by the recent deterioration of Asian economies.

The reason appears to lie in the strength of the services sector, which accounts for fully two-thirds of economic output and is less affected by the pound or Asian demand than tradable goods like automobiles or chemicals, analysts said. With unemployment continuing to fall and wage growth accelerating, "I don't see many signs that things are slowing down," said Richard Jeffrey, an economist at Charterhouse Tilney Securities.

The report underscored the continued sharp economic divergence between Britain and Continental Europe that will complicate any attempt by the government to join a single European currency early in the next decade. The bank's warning of the risk of higher inflation and higher interest rates in Britain coincided with a fall in German interest rates after the government reported that united Germany's inflation rate fell to a

The report and other recent data in- record low of 1.3 percent in January. The central bank's report caught fi-

nancial markets by surprise, coming one day after the January inflation figures showed that retail-price inflation, excluding mortgages, fell to 2.5 percent, equal to the government's target. Some analysts also saw signs of weakness in the jobs report, as the fall in unemployment was only half as large as the recent average.

The pound rose more than 1 percent to 2.9723 Deutsche marks late Wednesday from 2.9379 DM on Tuesday, as traders bet on higher rates that would make sterling more attractive to hold. In the bond market, however, in-

vestors apparently put more weight on the central bank's suggestion that any rise in rates would be reversed quickly as economic growth slows. The yield on the benchmark 10-year

bond fell to 5.97 percent from 6.01 percent Tuesday. In its report, the Bank of England released minutes that showed the first serious split on the Monetary Policy

to hold fire next month to await further economic data and any tax changes in the government's budget. But many analysts expect rates to rise to 7.5 percent or higher by the summer.

The problem for the bank and private

analysts is one of confusing data and uncertain timing. Economic growth slowed to 0.5 percent in the fourth quarter of last year from 0.8 percent in the third, and industrial production has fallen for five straight months. The central bank expects that growth will slow to 1.75 percent in 1998 from 3.1 percent in 1997.

Wages are accelerating, however, and skills shortages persist, especially in areas like computer programming because of the year 2000 problem.

Barclays Bank recently gave its infor-mation technology staff a 10 percent pay rise. And preparations for the introduction of a national minimum wage later this year are boosting pay at the bottom of the scale. McDonald's last month awarded pay increases of 8 to 12 percent.

"There are quite a lot of pressures there," said Alistair Hatchett of In-Committee in January, with three of the comes Data Services, a private research eight members favoring an interest-rate hike. The bank did not act then, or at last

## **Dow Corning Drops Plan** For South Korean Plant

#### Bureaucrats Blamed for Inconsistent Policies'

By Don Kirk

week's meeting, and analysts expect it SEOUL - A battle between Dow Corning Co. and local bureaucrats has ended with the American chemical giant giving up its plans to build a plant in South Korea, a decision that dramatized the difficulties facing foreigners trying to invest here. The president of Dow Corning

Korea, Kim Sun Mo, said Wednesday that "inconsistent policies" of key government ministries were at fault.

Foreigners are scouring this de-pressed economy in search of bargains but are either coming up empty or waiting to see whether rules and attitudes change after the inauguration of Kim Dae Jung as president Feb. 25.

South Korean companies are increasingly looking to foreign investors to bring in badly needed capital. Samsung Motors Inc. said Wednesday that it was negotiating with possible foreign partners for an alliance that would be aimed at rescuing its embryonic motor vehicle factory here.

In addition, policymakers for the in-coming administration proposed that the government sell shares overseas in Pohang Iron & Steel Co., known as

POSCO, and four other large stateowned companies — Korea Telecom, Korea Heavy Industries & Construction, Korea Gas Corp. and Korea Tobacco & Ginseng Corp. — that it may privatize as a way to bring more money into the country.

An unpredictable element in the ef-

forts to attract foreign capital is the attitude of thousands of workers who are faced with layoffs. The militant Korean Confederation of Trade Unions has threatened a strike of "indefinite" duration by its 600,000 members beginning Friday to protest legislation that would legalize the firing of workers who previously were guaranteed lifetime employment.

Labor, management and government agreed on the legislation last Friday, and the government warned that it would take action against strikers.

If they go ahead with "illegal strikes and actions," the government "has no choice but to prevent them," Labor Minister Lee Ki Ho said.

The Seoul stock market's main index, reflecting the strike threat, closed Wednesday at 520.15, a drop of 21.62 points or 4 percent from Tuesday.

See WON, Page 15

## Inco Slashing Jobs to Return to Profit

idend 75 percent and take other steps to come in Manitoba. save 165 million Canadian dollars (\$115 restore profit at the nickel miner.

The measures will result in a \$50 \$14 million write-down of assets.

Bloomberg News
Inco expects to save about \$75 million share beginning with the dividend payable March 13.

1.175 employees, slash its quarterly divOntario. The other 175 job cuts will
Inco expects to save about \$75 million share beginning with the dividend payable March 13.

Inco expects to save about \$75 million share beginning with the dividend payable March 13.

Inco expects to save about \$75 million share beginning with the dividend payable March 13.

Inco also will shut its New York office nullion) a year by 1999 under a plan to and cut other office expenses to save \$19 million annually. It will consolidate sale marketing, purchasing and engineering sell \$85 million in assets in 1998. million pretax charge in the current functions, saving an estimated \$52 milmunon presax charge in the current and a lion a year. Its quarterly dividend will cents a share in late trading Wednesday fall to 2.5 cents a share from 10 cents a in Toronto, at 24.50 dollars.

Inco will cut its 1998 capital budget by \$50 million and annual exploration spending by \$15 million a year and drop its research and development budget by

Inco shares were down 80 Canadian

#### **IHT Teams Up** With Athens Newspaper

PARIS — The International Herald Tribune and the Greek newspaper Kathimerini announced Wednesday that they were joining forces to publish a daily newspaper in Athens that will include the full edition of the IHT and a daily section in English from Kathimerini.

International Herald Tribune

The combined newspaper will be launched in early March.

The section from Kathimerini will include the day's news of Greece, including economics, commentary and entertainment listings.

The supplement will be edited by Nikos Kostandaras, a former Associated Press correspondent. Alexis Papahelas, Washington correspondent for Kathimerini, and Gregory Nicolopoulos, editor in chief of the financial section of Kathimerini, will act as editorial consultants.

The IHT will be printed on the Kathimerini presses. Athens thus becomes the 15th worldwide print site for the IHT, which is jointly owned by the New York Times and Washington Post companies. The English-language section produced by Kathimerini will compete with The Athens News, an English-language



1998 ANNUAL CONFERENCE LUXEMBOURG, 16 & 17 MARCH

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Luxembourg & Swiss Banking Secrecy Implications for investment funds and investors

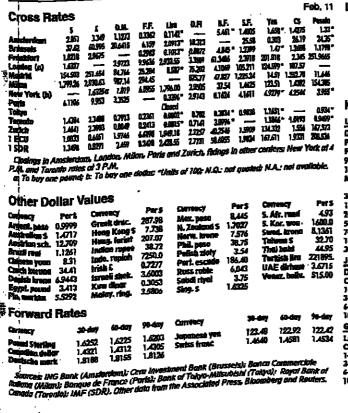
Globalisation and Convergence of Investment Services The emergence of the global full-service firm in the face of the changing economics

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The Euro from the Point of View of the Global Investor Addressing concerns and unveiling opportunities.

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**CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES** Libid-Libor Rates Deligr D-Mark
1-month 5½-5½ 3¾-3¾
3-month 5½-5¾-3¼-3¾
6-month 5½-5¾-3½-3¾
1-year 5½-5¼-3¾-3¾ Key Money Rates

99-day CDs (deal) 188-day CP (deal) SAL 38-day R-A 5.15 Yield 5.21 5.27 5.37 5.44 5.56 5.57 5.85 3-month T-bill 1-year T-bill 2-year T-sofe 5-year T-sofe 7-year T-sofe 18-year T-bond 0.50 0.42 0.70 1.10 N.A. 300.45 +0.70 298.95 298.45 -1.05 302.50 301.80 -0.50 Zerich Losden New York Londord role Coll meney 450 340 348 353 363 568 U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fluings: Zunich and New York opening and classing prices; New York Comex (April.)

# ING Barings Sets Some Closures

NEW YORK - ING Barings is closing its equity businesses in Latin America, India and Pakistan and firing about 200 employees to focus on more profitable areas, ex-

ecutives said Wednesday. ING Barings, a unit of ING Groep NV, a Dutch financial-services company, has one of the most extensive branch networks in emerging markets for research and trading in local securities. Its offices in Latin America stretch from Havana to Santiago, Chile.

"Some market conditions are not as they used to be, so market demand is a bit lower," Rund Po-let, a spokesman for ING Groep,

trading, sales and research team has at least 100 employees, officials said. ING Barings plans to fire about 50 workers in India,

Continued from Page 11

mitted to making sure that all of the members" of Computer Sciences

were "welcomed into the combined

was not yet certain whether Mr.

did not have a comment ready. A

nokesman said the company was

Allie Young, who follows Com-

'It's not the announcement we

puter Sciences for Dataquest World-

wide Services, said she was sur-

But he told analysts later that it

For its part, Computer Sciences

company with open arms.

Honeycutt would remain.

studying the offer.

-11

,有关的是不知识,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是这个人的,我们也是一个人的,我们也是一个人的,我们也是一个人的,我们们的一个人的,我们也是一个人的

Pakistan and Hong Kong, a per-son familiar with the company

. ING Barings has seen its Latin American business squeezed as foreign banks have rushed to open offices in the region, especially in

America, India and Pakistan are to be cut.

Offices in Latin

Brazil, which is considered one of the world's most competitive investment banking markets.
Although ING Barings' asset

management business in Latin The Latin American equity America grew in 1995 with ING's purchase of Barings PLC, which long had a presence in the region, it subsequently suffered from poaching by other banks.

advising various industries.

That strategy "can be very ben-

eficial for both parties," she said, as

the buyer gains the target's skills,

while the acquired company has ac-

But in the latest move, Ms. Young

said, there was no obvious benefit for

Computer Sciences, beyond the

premium paid to its shareholders. She

said it would make sense from Com-

puter Sciences' point of view to either

continue buying companies in its in-

spokeswoman said the two compa-

But the Computer Associates

dustry or to be acquired by one.

cess to more customers and the re-

sources of a larger corporation.

**DEAL:** A Business Software Giant Offers \$9 Billion for Computer Sciences

own business, adding key skills in ness's computing, from payroll and

For example, ING Barings lost 60 members of its Latin American equities, sales and research team to Deutsche Morgan Grenfell in

Jessica Oppenheim, an ING Barings spokeswoman in New York, declined to say whether the bank had been losing money in Latin America.

ING Barings has a highly regarded team, but a spokesman in London said that because of high infrastructure costs, the bank would have been unlikely to see a profit from Latin American equities in the medium term.

We've been reviewing the cost base of the business in the last few months after the collapse of the Asian markets," the spokesman said, "and we found that these equity operations were long on infrastructure costs and low on revenue." (Bloomberg, Reuters)

accounting to refrigeration units.

Computer Associates trails only

Microsoft Corp. and Oracle Corp. in

sales among the world's independent makers of software. It was founded in 1976 by Mr. Wang, who fled China

in 1952. The company said it sells

more than 500 programs for com-

mercial users. Although it, like Com-

puter Sciences, has grown by in-

tegrating acquisitions over the years.

it is much smaller in terms of em-

ployees, with 11,000 people spread

annual sales of about \$11 billion,

making it roughly the same size as

Microsoft. Computer Associates had sales of \$4.5 billion last year.

The combined company, Com-

over 160 offices in 43 countries.

## German Price Data Give a Lift to Dollar

Bloomberg News
NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the Deutsche mark Wednesday as German reports showed flagging consumer demand and the inflation rate at a seven-year low, reinforcing the belief that German interest rates are on hold.

Germany said its consumer prices were unchanged in January, leaving the inflation rate at its lowest level since German reunification in 1990. Separately, the Bundesbank said retail sales dropped in December. That contrasted with recent U.S. reports showing growth with tame

"You want to buy dollars against European currencies because the U.S. is much stronger than Germany," said Andrew Hodge, a currency strategist at Bank Brussels Lambert in New York. "The German economy is still sputtering."

from Armonk, New York, that IBM

said it would buy CommQuest

Technologies Inc., a maker of com-

other devices, for \$180 million.

puter chips for cellular phones and

■ Dow Moves to Another High

U.S. blue-chip stocks rose Wed-

nesday, as the Dow Jones industrial

average set another record, though

an influential analyst warned of dis-

appointing profits among semicon-

should sell," Thomas Kurlak, a

U.S. STOCKS

Lynch & Co., said in an interview.

The recent rally is not sustainable.

Intel fell after the warning, al-

The Dow, which set a record

though other technology shares rose

after the Computer Associates bid.

Tuesday, gained a further 18.94 to 8,314.55. J.P. Morgan limited the

index's gains, as its stock fell after a

South Korean court blocked a \$180

million payment to the bank. The

broader Standard & Poor's 500stock index rose 1.00 point to

1,020.01, but the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index fell 0.49

ductor companies this year.

Demand is slowing.

for Computer Sciences.

puter Associates said, would have semiconductor analyst for Merrill

The dollar rose to 1.8190 DM from 1.8072 DM on Tuesday. It also rose to 123.51 year from 123.20 yen as traders scaled back expectations that Japan's government will soon spend more to revive moribund domestic demand.

Hans-Juergen Koebnick, a Bundesbank council member, reinforced the idea that German

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

rates were on hold, saying "there are no inflationary pressure: The dollar got an added boost against the mark from a surge in sterling. Traders rushed to sell marks and buy pounds after the

Bank of England said in a quarterly

report that it may need to raise rates again to keep inflation at bay. The mark is looking pretty soft," said Jeremy Stretch, a cur-rency strategist at NatWest Mar-kets, "With record unemployment hitting consumption, it's highly unlikely rates will rise anytime soon. By contrast, you have a buoyant

consumer sector in the U.K." The yen gave up some of its recent gains as traders and investors doubted that Japanese government measures to lift the economy out of a seven-year slump would succeed.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party next week will unveil a plan that is expected to pump funds into the economy through a combination of tax cuts and spending measures.

'The vote is still out whether this is really a tangible stimulus pack-"If investors don't want to lose age," said Robert Sabia, a currency trader at ING Baring Capital Marmoney in the next six months, they

> The yen has risen more than 8 percent since it fell to a five-and-ahalf-year low Jan. 7, propelled by expectations that the government is on the verge of adopting sweeping measures to get its economy going. It also was lifted by signs that Asian market turmoil may be receding. Japanese markets were closed

Wednesday for a holiday. While Japanese and German recoveries struggle to get off the ground, the U.S. economy is growing steadily, though inflation appears to be in check.

"You've got strong noninfla-tionary growth in the U.S., and that's good for the dollar," Mr. Stretch said

Against other currencies, the dollar rose to 1.4624 Swiss francs from 1.4607 francs and climbed to 6.0955 French francs from 6.0605 francs. The pound was quoted at \$1.6325, up from \$1.6258,

#### rca: Bloombero, Rei Very briefly:

• Boeing Co. plans to hire as many as 400 of the recently fired workers from the National Aeronantics and Space Administration's space shuttle program in Florida and Texas as its workload increases on space projects.

 America Online Inc. reported a second-quarter profit of \$20.8 million amid lower marketing costs and higher ad revenues and fees. The on-line service provider posted a loss of \$129.1 million in the year-earlier quarter. Revenue grew 45 percent, to \$592 million.

 AirNet Systems Inc. is buying Quick International Courler for \$92 million, expanding its small-package operations. • Amoco Corp. backed out of a joint bid with RAO Rosneft for the right to develop the Khoreiver Depression, a major oil and gas deposit in northern Russia's Timan Pechora region, prised by the bid.

Interfax said Wednesday.

AFP, AP, Bloombers

"It's not the a

#### Albright to Decide in Total SA Case

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright

will soon decide whether sanctions should be imposed on France's Total SA and two other non-U.S. companies for their natural-gas deal with Iran, James Rubin, a State Department spokesman, said Wednesday.

"The secretary will be making a determination soon about the sanctionability question," Mr. Rubin said. Mr. Rubin would not specify when a decision would be

made and, in reply to questions, would not rule out a decision being announced this week. Since last autumn, the State Department has been reviewing whether a \$2 billion deal entered into by Total, Russia's RAO

Gazprom and Malaysia's Petronas to develop a major Iranian cent, to close at \$52.625 on the New York Stock gas field violates a U.S. law that seeks to punish companies illat invest more \$20 million in Iran or Libya. Mrs. Albright can impose sanctions, waive sanctions for

reasons of national security or enter into consultations with the tribution vehicles for genetics technology used in crop government concerned to resolve the issue.

**AMEX** 

Wednesday's 4 P.M. Close

The 300 most traded stacks of the day,

ANACC AND A PART OF THE PART O

#### company had grown previously by ciates' program, Unicenter TNG, acquiring smaller companies in its which is used to run an entire busi-Separately, Reuters reported **Dekalb Soars as Monsanto Shows Interest**

Blcomberg News

would have expected for Computer nies have been working together,

Sciences," she said, saying that the especially with a Computer Asso-

ST. LOUIS - Dekalb Genetics Corp. put itself up for sale Wednesday, and Monsanto Co. immediately said it might buy the 60 percent of the seed company it did not yet own as it seeks to head off rival bids and

strengthen its position in genetically enhanced crops. Dekalb Genetics' shares surged \$19.50, or 59 per-Exchange. Monsanto fell \$1.50 to \$51.25.

Seed companies have risen in value in recent years as biotechnology companies value them as essential dis-

"I wouldn't be surprised at any price" a suitor would pay, given the recent interest in seed producers, said Jonathon Braatz, an analyst at George K. Baum & Co.

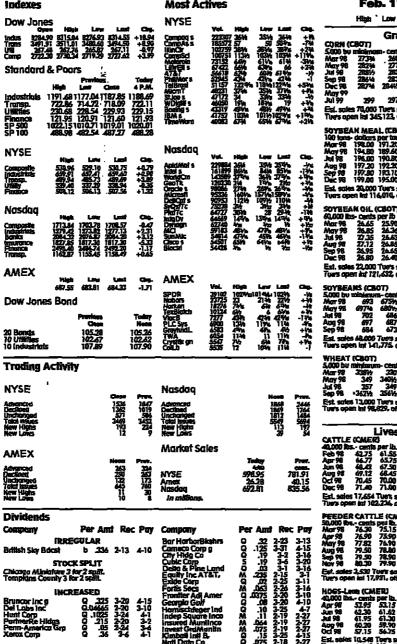
"This is going to determine pretty quickly who the major players are," said Douglas Groh of Merrill Lynch & Co. He said there was only a limited number of other bidders for Dekalb in an industry that has been consolidating rapidly. Monsanto has spent \$2 billion over the past two years to acquire seed and biotechnology operations for it to compete in the market for bioengineered crops. Monsanto and Dekalb have jointly produced genetically engineered corn seed that resists Monsanto's Roundup herbicide.

Advancers and decliners were almost evenly matched on the New York Stock Exchange.

points to 1,708-55.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY Feb. 11, 1998 **Most Actives** 18-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF)



Hilipph 'Low Latest Chape Optal HI GRADE COPPER (NCAX)
25,000 Bbs. - Conths per B.
Feb 98 7c.70 75.85 77.15 4
Mar 98 77.45 7c.70 77.15 4
May 98 77.45 7c.70 77.65 4
May 98 78.50 77.00 78.50 78.50 78.50 78.50 79.50 78.50 79.55 46,224 39,472 23,123 4,496 2,205 1,889 -0.36 -0.38 -0.40 -0.41 -0.39 -0.35 WHEAT (CBOT)
5,000 bu minimum-cents per hushal
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May 98 349 340¾ 344¼ -4½
Jul 98 357 349 351¾ -4½
Jul 98 357 349 351¾ -4½
Sep 98 -362½ 356½ 338 -5
Est actical 13,000 Tuers usina 11,734
Tuers open in 22.- dollars per hoy cz. 395.no 388.50 390.90 395.50 386.00 388.40 397.60 387.00 388.40 390.00 387.00 388.40 es M.A. Tue's soles 1,194 ten hat 17,308, up 209 PREDIER CATTLE (CMER)
SU00 that, carrisp per th.
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Apr 98 74.30 75.15 74.02
Apr 98 74.90 75.90 74.60
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Aury 98 79.50 79.20
Aury 98 80.20 79.90
Ext. action 2.178
Tuers open int 17,931, off 166 US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT)

PORK BELLIES (CMER)
40,000 lbs- cents per lb.
Feb 98 45.25 45.70 44.85
Mar 98 45.15 45.70 44.85
Mar 98 45.00 44.53 45.77
Est, actes 2,465 Turts soles 3,463
Turts opins 3,463
Turts opins 1,190, art 229 Food

COCOA (NCSE)
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Mary 98 1560 15-22 15-6
Jul 98 1550 157-6 157-6
5ep 98 1612 1604 1604
Dac 98 1645 7437 1637
Mary 9 1674 1646 1666
Est, scient 10,845 Turs solien 9,704
Turs open int 84,463, cri 772 Tues open int 36.747, off 365

EURODOLLARS (CMER)

SI INDIGOLLARS (CMER)

SI INDIGOLPO bot 100 pct.

Feb 91 94.37 94.37 94.37 unct.

Mar 98 94.38 94.37 94.38 unch.

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2002

# Realignment Speeds Up In Italian Bank Industry

Mediobanca and IMI Set Big Expansions

Reuters MILAN - The map of Italian banking was redrawn Wednesday when the boards of a leading merchant bank, Mediobanca, and its main rival. Istituto Mobiliare Italiano SpA, approved am-

bitious expansion projects. After spending the postwar years frozen in what a former prime minister called "a petrified forest," Italy's largest banks are engaged in a frantic merger scramble to create bigger institutions capable of competing in a single-currency.

cross-border business environment. 'Clearly there's a great deal of panic in banking circles about being the last one standing when the music stops," said the head of trading at a Milan brokerage.

Mediobanca's board of directors proposed a capital increase that would raise nearly 7 trillion lire (\$3.9 billion) if the 350 million new shares were to be sold at the current trading price of 19,000 lire each. The bank did not release financial details of the operation.

The bank said part of the capital would be used to take up its share in the insurer Assicurazioni Generali's capital increase, which is raising the money to fund overseas expansion. The rest of the money will be used "to finance its expansion in investment banking and asset management," it said.

Mediobanca is expected to unveil a project in the near future that would strengthen its long-standing alliances with Generali and Banca Commerciale Italiana, analysts said.

Mediobanca, legendary for the secrecy with which it conducts its affairs, has not informed shareholders how it plans to use the large sum of money it will ask them for, Italian newspapers said.

Rome-based IMI's board, meanwhile, approved plans for the formerly state-controlled bank to merge with Isti-

Compiled by Our Staff From Desputches

in 1997 came in between 3.0 and 3.1

percent of gross domestic product, a

government

Wednesday.

quirement to join.

PARIS - France's public deficit

While the budget deficit is slightly

above the criteria initially set for

joining the common European cur-

rency, the euro, European leaders

have agreed to allow countries that

are close to meeting the deficit re-

European Union, countries were sup-

posed to have a budget deficit of no-

more than 3 percent of gross do-

Under the Maastricht Treaty on

okeswoman said

tuto Bancario San Paolo di Torino, or San Paolo, to create Italy's largest bank. IMI's main shareholders have already said they favor the merger.

IMI's board of directors gave the chief executive, Rainer Masera, a mandate to come up with a merger plan rapidly, it said. Mr. Masera said the integration of the two banks would enable them to strengthen their "respective leadership positions in the Italian market" and could create "important reference points for successive aggreg-

ations in Italy and overseas." The merged bank will have the leading market share in asset management, one of Italy's biggest branch networks and strong capital-markets operations.

Monte dei Paschi di Siena lifted its objections to the IMI-San Paolo alliance at a board meeting Tuesday. MPS holds a 10 percent stake in IM1.



IN SYNCH — Fiat's managing director, Paolo Cantarella, left, with Nicolai Pughin, president of OAO GAZ, center, and Reinhard Schmoelz of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, concluding an \$850 million car venture Wednesday,

#### Investor's Europe Paris. London CAC 40 FTSE 100 Index 3350 Wednesday Prev. & Close Close Chap Exchange index: 970.12 Z646.07 2,626.79 +0.6 SEL-20 4,588.43 4,523,75 +4.4 695.35 693.44 .40.89 Copenhagen Stock Market 3,735.88 3,694.83 +1.5 HEX General 667.34 662.40 ÷0.7 Oslo OBX. 5,607.90 5,613.30 0.10 London **FTSE 100** 713.07 706.75 #D.PS Stock Exchange Madrid 19892 19777 ×0.58 Milan 3,240.00 3,235.76 +0:12 Paris 3,511.05 3,488.88 +0.64 Stockholm 1,348.99 1,340.03 +0.57. Vienna 4,303.42 4,262.29 +0.56 Zurich

#### German Inflation Falls to 7-Year Low of 1.3%

WIESBADEN, Germany — Weak retail sales and falling energy prices helped push Germany's annual inflation rate to a seven-year low, government reports showed Wednesday, prompting predictions that the central bank would not raise interest rates soon.

Consumer prices were unannual inflation rate to 1.3 percent. That was the lowest since Germany was unified in 1990. The governthe unified Germany a year later.

when the euro is introduced in 1999.

it would not fulfill that requirement

on time. Instead, it is targeting a

deficit of 3 percent for 1998. Ger-

many also is expected to have trou-

The government spokeswoman,

Catherine Trautmann, recounting a

presentation by Finance Minister

Dominique Strauss-Kahn at the

weekly cabinet meeting, added that the budget deficit for 1997 was just

below target at 267.7 billion francs

. She said the deficit figures.

showed that spending was under

ble meeting the deficit limit.

(\$44.6 billion).

France already had acknowledged

"The inflation outlook is very good," said Hans-Juergen Meltzer, an economist at Deutsche Bank AG. "The Bundesbank won't do anything for the first half of the year, and if they do raise after that, it won't be very much at all."

German bond prices rose after the reports. That pushed the yield on the benchmark 10-year governchanged in January, the Federal ment bond down four basis points Statistics Office said, cutting the to 5.02 percent, two basis points, or above an all-time low.

Sluggish consumer demand ment started compiling statistics for showed up in a separate report that retail sales fell 1.4 percent in

Meanwhile, the European mon-

etary affairs commissioner, Yves-

Thibault de Silguy, said Wednesday

that monetary union was firmly on

track and warned that delay would

cause economic and political up-

prepared for monetary union.

mestic product.

December from a year earlier. Sales also fell an inflation-adjusted 1.4 percent for all 1997 as record keep prices low. Domestic conioblessness kept shoppers from spending. It was the fifth year in the past six that sales have declined. Analysts predict that inflation will less rate fell to 11.6 percent in Janucontinue to be held in check this ary from 11.8 percent in December.

year, reasoning that economic problems in Asia will force companies to sumption could increase, however, if unemployment falls or stabilizes. Germany's seasonally adjusted job-

## to 5.02 percent, two basis points, or hundredths of a percentage point, above an all-time low. Energy Group Stock Gyrates After Nomura Loses Interest

LONDON - The withdrawal French Deficit Is a Bit Over Limit for Euro of one of three possible bidders for Energy Group PLC buffeted the stock of the British power company Wednesday and left the mardeficit of 4.2 percent of gross doket focusing on the only official bid made so far.

Nomura International PLC said late Tuesday that it had withdrawn from talks about a possible ofter 'solely for reasons of price."

It would have been competing with a revised £4.06 billion (\$6.59 heaval. He dismissed arguments put billion) offer from PacifiCorp, forward by a group of German econ-made Feb. 3, that Energy Group omists who this week mounted a has endorsed.

legal challenge to the single cur-rency. They contend that the econ-tially fell 5 pence Wednesday, finomies of EU countries have not been ished up 6 pence at 774.

Nomura's exit leaves Texas But Mr. de Silguy asserted that the. Utilities Co. as the only likely economists had ignored recent im- obstacle to PacifiCorp becoming (AP, Reuters, AFP) a British power company since Utilities.

321/5 33 44 55,10 19,20 42,60 54,60 42 ts 26,60 27,90 50,94 50,10

1995. Texas Utilities said late Tuesday that it remained interested in Energy Group and was con-

sidering whether to bid on it. "Any such offer would need to compare favorably with Pacifi-Corp's renewed offer, which expires on March 9 unless extended," the Dallas-based company said.

Nomura said it had withdrawn because it could not agree with a third party on selling Peabody Holding, an Energy Group unit that is the largest private coal company in the United States. Sources familiar with the talks said Lehman Merchant, a Lehman Brothers Inc. unit, was the third party.

Lehman Brothers International. a unit of Lehman Brothers Inc., and Merrill Lynch & Co. arc advising Texas Utilities on Energy Group. Texas regulators would (Reuters, Bloomberg)

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#### Very briefly:

 European economic growth will not be halted by the conomic and monetary crisis in Asia, Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn of France said.

• Tele2 France and Esprit Telecom received operating licenses from the French phone-system regulator ART, and each will receive one of the final two single-digit access codes. The other five applicants may receive four-digit codes. One of those five, AXS Telecom, protested ART's decision and said it might appeal to the European Commission.

 PolyGram NV's 1997 net profit, excluding one-time charges, rose 9 percent to 787 million guilders (\$385.5 million), as sales rose 17 percent, to 11.1 billion guilders. The Dutch entertainment company forecast a strong 1998 despite reduced demand in Asia for its music products.

 Astra AB's pretax profit rose 8 percent in 1997, to 14.31 billion kronor (\$1.76 billion), as lower sales in Sweden and; Britain were offset by growth in North America. Total sales for the year increased 15 percent, to 44.9 billion kronor.

Ukraine plans to start privatizing Ukraine International Airlines, its No. 2 carrier, by the end of the year.

 Swiss Bank Corp. and Union Bank of Switzerland will dismiss 50 of UBS's corporate finance professionals, or a third of its London total, as they merge. All 308 of SBC's corresponding employees will be kept. Remers. AFX, AFP, Bloomberg

#### **Underwriting Gains Aid Allianz**

MUNICH - Allianz AG, Europe's biggest insurance company, announced a 16 percent rise in its 1997 net profit Wednesday, helped by its first underwriting profit since 1990.

Net income rose to 2.6 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.44) billion) from 2.24 billion DM in 1996. The insurer swung to an underwriting profit of about 150 million DM in 1997 from a loss of 148 million DM in 1996.

Allianz said it expected gross premiums this year to add up to \_ 88 billion DM. That figure would go up by 26 billion DM after, Assurances Generales de France joins Allianz. The French government approved the takeover plan last week.

Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York time.

Results for this year should reflect slightly better than 10 economic conver- the 11th American company to buy need to approve a bid by Texas percent growth, assuming there are no big natural disasters or other heavy claims, Allianz said.

The Trib Index

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mestic product by the end of 1997 to control.

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with a foreign company, the local market March 28.

South Korea's domestic market has fallen so sharply that both Hyundai and Daewoo are in trouble, and Kia, the No. 3 auto manufacturer, is in

successful apparel manufacturer with community has been transfixed by the recent renegotiation of \$23.4 bilit began an ambitious expansion in lion in short-term debt owed by South Korean banks to foreign banks, a far larger and messier problem is brewing within the country.
Short-term domestic debt, the Flush with easy credit, it branched out into golf courses, remoney owed to South Korean banks

by local companies, is more than double that owed to foreign creditors. With interest rates soaring, liquidity rapidly evaporating and consumption all but coming to a halt, dozens of companies like Nasdirector of planning. "In the same an are failing every day with potentially dire consequences both for local banks and for the global financial structure. Each corporate collapse adds

stress to a battered banking system. "It's just one more straw on the back of South Korea's banks," said Stephen Marvin, head of research at Ssangyong Investment & Securities Co. "The next Nasan could be the straw that breaks them."

Mr. Marvin is one of a growing chorus warning that South Korea not repay. Its debt outweighed its could face a financial meltdown, not because of the foreign debt crisis but because of its mountain of domestic

Korea First Bank and Seoul Bank,

stories like Nasan's may threaten the fragile South Korean banking government bailed out in January, failed because each had more than system. While the world financial \$2 billion in soured domestic loans.

Tide of Bad Domestic Debt Threatens South Korea

South Korean banks owe their foreign counterparts about \$153 billion, about \$23.4 billion of which structured last month. But that total money that South Korean companies owe South Korean financial hook for the face value of the note. institutions, which at current ex

The short-term debt owed to banks by local companies is more than double that owed to foreign creditors.

change rates is somewhat more than \$300 billion, according to analysts. Between 50 percent and 75 percent of domestic debt is short-term. much of it in the form of our, or promissory, notes that come due in three to six months.

The system works like this: Nasan sells some of the clothing it makes to a Seoul department store. Rather than paying in cash, the store might issue Nasan a promissory note for the amount it owes that Analysts worry that hundreds of two large commercial banks that the comes due in three months.

But Nasan needs cash. It takes the note to its bankers, who swap the notes for cash at a discount that depends on Nasan's creditworthiness and that of the retailer that issued it. Nasan, however, guaranwas short-term debt until it was re- tees payment of the note. Three months later, the department store pales alongside domestic debt, the has gone bankrupt and cannot pay the note. Suddenly, Nasan is on the

> In fact, it was not technically Nasan's own \$500 million debt burden that crushed it but two notes totaling \$3.5 million. It was such notes that brought Halla and Kia, leviathans in comparison with Nasan, and scores of other South Korean companies to their knees, and it was these notes that will undoubtedly sink hundreds more South Korean businesses this year.

"We're not talking about a long time here, if you think about the fact that most of the promissory notes at current exchange rates, and it is issued in mid-November when the estimating an increase to \$28 billion economic crisis began are coming due in mid-February or March, said Jeff Uscher, editor of Grant's Asia Observer.

Whether the South Korean financial system can absorb a stream of bankrupicies is far from certain. In the first week of January, more than 100 companies went bankrupt, and the pace has not abated, which means banks' capital bases have already suffered severe erosion.

"The question is whether the pace of bankruptcies will reach critical mass and set off a detonation in the financial system," said Karl Moskowitz, representative director of KSA Ltd., a consulting firm whose clients are mainly mediumsized Korean corporations, "The domestic debt problem could lead to the same financial paralysis we had last December, but this one will be much more difficult to solve."

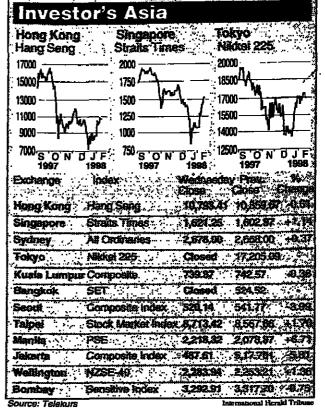
Analysts say at least 20 percent of the domestic loan portfolio, or between \$60 billion and \$65 billion, is probably already in default; some estimates range as high as 30 percent or 40 percent.

But government officials say such estimates are overblown.

At the end of November, the Bank of Korea put the value of nonperforming loans at about \$20.6 billion this year.

Richard Samuelson, head of research at SBC Warburg Dillon Read in Seoul, predicts that at least three and perhaps as many as eight of South Korea's 30 largest chaebol, or conglomerates, will close this year.

"I don't believe even the most pessimistic government estimates are factoring in the possibility of eight more going bankrupt this year," he said.



#### Very briefly:

United Merchant Group Bhd. of Malaysia is considering selling its stake in BHL Bank Bhd. to Hong Leong Bank Bhd. Hong Leong, owned by the financier Quek Leng Chan, is seeking to gain control of BHL Bank. But United's share price soared 17 percent to 2.11 ringgit (60 cents) amid speculation that Hong Leong might want to merge Hong Leong Finance with United's wholly owned UMG Finance Bhd.

 Market regulators in the Asia-Pacific region said they needed to install new mechanisms to prevent financial market turbulence, and some favored tougher regulation of the foreign-exchange markets.

• PT Indosat, the dominant international phone company in Indonesia, said 1997 profit rose a better-than-expected 22 percent to 636.4 billion rupiah (\$67 million) as sales growth outpaced costs and the fall of the rupiah lifted earnings.

• Hutchison Whampoa Ltd.'s wholly owned Hutchison Telecommunications (Hong Kong) Ltd. subsidiary said it planned to begin multimedia service in Hong Kong this year. • America Online Inc. and China Internet Corp. of Hong Kong agreed to introduce AOL service in Hong Kong in Chinese and English by next year.

• Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd. said its acrospace arm, ST Aerospace Supplies Pte., sold its 20 percent stake in WK Engineering International Inc. to the firm.

• China intends to trim spending on the construction and upgrading of airports by 1.6 percent this year, to 17.9 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion), because growth of air travel in China is slowing, the official China Daily said. AFP. Reuters, Bloomberg

## Court Orders Seoul Bank To Halt Payment to Morgan

SEOUL - A district court ordered Boram Bank on Wednesday to temporarily stop making payments to J. P. Morgan & Co. pending a

By Stephanie Strom

New York Times Service

a stable of popular local brands until

1988, backed by banks that are now

sorts and hotels, then added a health-

chib subsidiary and acquired a con-

was another medium of fashion,

said Yeom Moon Nam, assistant

way that clothing evolved from

simply something to keep you warm

into a fashion statement, houses are

ketball team, department stores and

supermarkets and a broadcasting company, assembling a collection

of 15 affiliates that by the end of last

year made it South Korea's 50th-

Last month, Nasan collapsed un-

der the weight of loans that it could

equity by 10-to-1 - a ratio more

than five times the amount that

would be considered marginally

prodent in the Western world.

The group later tacked on a bas-

not just for refuge any more."

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Our chairman felt that housing

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struction company.

SEOUL - Nasan Group was a

al court ruling, after a petition by SK Securities, a court official said. SK Securities filed a petition with the court

Monday to prevent the local bank from paying what local media estimated was \$189 million owed to the U.S. investment bank.

J.P. Morgan had a swap contract with Boram Bank in February 1997. The bank had a similar separate contract with a group of three South Korean companies, including SK Southeast Asian currencies. It is not clear how much Boram owed to J. P.

Morgan or why the local brokerage house filed the petition. But a spokesman for SK Securities said Morgan had 'neglected its responsibility to explain risk in the investment."

A J. P. Morgan executive who asked not to be identified said: "This is unusual that a company which is not a party to the contract can ask the court to interfere. Morgan and Boram intend to complete the contract successfully. The Morgan executive said the ruling

would be watched by investors as a test case of how South Korea's courts and government Securities, which then set up an offshore fund treated obligations between local companies to invest in derivative securities based on and their creditors. (Reuters, Bloomberg)



MANILA'S LITTLE HELPERS — Schoolchildren about to exchange U.S. dollars for pesos at the central bank Wednesday in a gesture to aid the economy.

#### **WON:** Dow Corning Cancels Plan for Big Plant in South Korea

Continued from Page 11

The problems encountered by Dow Corning in negotianng tax and tariff conces- tions of companies for sale. sions have a familiar ring to some here.

change the way they handle foreign investors," said You Jung Keun, governor of North Cholia Province, where Dow Corning had considered investing more than \$2 billion.

I am very disappointed." The Finance Ministry apparently opposed significant tax concessions of the sort usually granted big investors in foreign countries and was reluctant to approve reductions in the cost of electrical power, as well as huge cuts in tariffs on materials Dow Corning would have had to import for the plant, which

There was not a good deal of cooperation and coordination," said Mr. You, who also serves as an adviser to the incoming president.

by some South Korean exec- merge or sell out to a foreign utives with companies or por-"We shifted our strategy

Lim Kyung Choon, chairman of Samsung Motor Co., told reporters Wednesday while showing off Samsung's new car, due to be introduced on

Mr. Lim said Samsung would welcome a "strategic alliance" with Ford Motor Co., Chrysler Corp. or any of a number of other major companies — with the ex-ception of General Motors Corp., which has said it is negotiating with Daewoo Motor Co., Korea's secondlargest motor vehicle maker after Hyundai Corp.

Desperation for capital may receivership. Within months,

eventually bring down the ex- some analysts say, Kia and has set up an effective system orbitant prices often suggested Samsung will either have to for winning foreign confi-

manufacturer --- or both. Hundreds of smaller operations are cutting back or conglomerates, or chaebol, from taking over a foreign shutting down and ostensibly of foreign money.
Over the last 40 years, non-

Koreans have invested only \$24 billion in facilities here, a minuscule figure for an economy with a gross national product of more than \$500 billion a year. That number is not expected to zoom before the country's volatile stock market and currency have stabilized and the government

dence. One difficulty cited by

would-be investors is that the while talking about getting do not seem in a hurry to

An American who specializes in investment opportunities said that a major chaebol was asking \$100 million for the purchase of one of its smaller companies We looked at their books

and discovered the company was worth no more than \$23 million," he said.

## IMF Admits Its Thai Plan Is Too Tough

By Joseph Kahn

Monetary Fund has conceded that con-ditions it imposed on Thailand as part of Mr. Neiss, who is visiting Ba a multibillion-dollar bailout package have proved too austere, clearing a path for the Thai government to increase

spending substantially. Acknowledging that economic growth and tax revenue have fallen far below

levels predicted several months ago, the IMF has agreed to allow Thailand to run a smaller budget surplus than originally mandated, and perhaps even a budget deficit, said Hubert Neiss, director of the fund's Asia Pacific department.

"There is a need for flexibility on the cure the wrong illness. spending target," Mr. Neiss said Tues-

this week for a formal assessment of the country's progress under IMF care, said details of increased spending would await the completion of the government

budget, expected this month.

The revised budget target, while not unexpected, appears to vindicate some critics of IMF bailout programs for troubled Asian countries. Several critics have argued that when the Fund prescribed austerity for Thailand, South Korea and Indonesia last year, it tried to

Those countries, the argument goes, day. "Especially to the extent that there is do not have spendthrift governments but BANGKOK — The International a need for spending on social programs, have huge private-sector debt problems, and sharp austerity programs add to ecoproblems.

Mr. Neiss acknowledged that the Fund had underestimated the ferocity of the Asian economic problem and its impact on Thailand. But he said austerity was nonetheless needed because Thailand showed classic symptoms of govemment mismanagement when it first applied for UMF help in August.

Thailand is on the path to recovery, although not perhaps as fast as we had hoped," Mr. Neiss said.

#### TWA: It Flies, but Can It Soar?

Continued from Page 11 exploited benefits from its

One key to more timely service and cutting costs was replacing wide-body Boeing 747s and Lockheed L-1011s with 757s and MD-80s, which have less than half the capacity. TWA is also phasing out its aging 727s.
With fewer seats to sell,

TWA has experienced a 10 percent drop in operating revenne. But operating profit in the third quarter jumped to \$63.8 million from \$26 million a year earlier, and the company is projecting a sharp narrowing of its loss during this year's slow winter period, to \$50 million from \$150 milli less fuel and maintenance requiring smaller crews and

wA is also rebounding on the marketing front. It reto deploy a computer program tracking how much customers 1948: Bourgeon spend with the company as Those data have given it a full-fare business customers who travel frequently, though tacly on long flights.

Analysts give Mr. Gitner's team high marks for these and

other improvements. So why is there so much skepticism that they can build on such successes to the point that IWA can sail comfortably above the turbulence when the next downturn hits? One problem is that not

many people outside the com-

pany buy TWA's assumption that there is a host of un-

particular route structure. TWA already accounts for more than 60 percent of the traffic originating at St. Louis's Lambert Field, and Lambert has its limits. It is already the fifth-busiest U.S. airport despite being reduced to one runway when weather is bad. A planned additional runway will not be ready before 2003 at the earliest.

TWA's second hub, at Kennedy, is no help. After Carl Icahn, the Wall Street financier who took control of the airline in 1985, sold the valuable London routes to American Airlines in 1991, Kennedy and the routes feeding international traffic into it became money-losers.

Mr. Icahn was forced out after TWA went bankrupt in 1992, but efforts to return TWA's Kennedy operations to profitability have not worked.

TWA can claim it flies to more American cities from Kennedy than any does any other airline, but most business travelers heading to or from New York prefer La Guardia or Newark airports. That is why Continental's heavy investment in expanding its Newark hub has contributed so much to that airline's rebirth.

Ultimately, analysts say.
TWA's best hope is to attract
bigger and healthier airlines as marketing partners so that it can link its routes, schedules, frequent-flier programs, clubs and other attractions to theirs. TWA, said Samuel Buttrick, who follows the industry for Paine Webber, "has to become part of a true network."

NationsBank Brasil Holdings Ltda.

a wholly-owned subsidiary of NationsBank Corporation

has completed its acquisition of 51% of the shares of

**BANCO LIBERAL** Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

**NationsBank** 

January 23, 1998

N.B. (Bahamas) Limited

a wholly-owned subsidiary of NationsBank Corporation

has completed its acquisition of 51% of

LIBERAL BANKING

Nassau, Bahamas

**NationsBank** 

Post-acquisition, Liberal has consolidated net worth of US\$130 million and funds under management of over US\$2.5 billion.

**NationsBank**<sup>\*</sup>

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#### World Roundup

#### **Short Stay for Seeds**

TEMMS Yevgeni Kafelnikov and Goran Ivanisevic arrived late and left early at the \$1 million Dubai Open Both lost Wednesday. Kafelnikov, the No. 3 seed, lost, 6-2, 6-1, to Hicham Arazi. Ivanisevic, seeded No. 8, fell to Carlos Moya, 6-3, 6-3. Marcelo Rios, the No. 2 seed, and Sergi Bruguera, seeded No. 5, had already been elimin-

Last Sunday, Kafelnikov was a finalist in Marseille, France, while Ivanisevic won the Croatian Open before a home crowd in Split.

There wasn't enough time to adjust," Kafelnikov said. "You need to be here two or three days before playing. You can't play well the week before and here." (Reuters)

 The ATP Tour Player Council voted to recommend experimental on-court coaching likely beginning this spring, an ATP official said in San Jose on Tuesday. The move must be approved by the Tour Board of Directors. Tennis has only allowed on-court coaching in Davis Cup and Fed Cup.



Arazi in action against Yevgeni Kafelnikov.

#### The Houston Oilers?

ICE HOCKEY Les Alexander, the owner of the Houston Rockets of the National Basketball Association, signed an agreement Tuesday to buy the Edmonton Oilers of the National Hockey League for \$82.5 million. The deal would fall through if a local group offers at least \$70 million within 30 days to keep the team in Edmonton. (AP)

#### First Arbitration Heard

BASEBALL Frank Rodriguez, a Minnesota pitcher, became the first player to go to salary arbitration this year. He asked for a four-fold raise from \$220,000 to \$880,000. The Twins offered \$425,000. Morton Mitchnick, Jerome Ross

and Anthony Sinicropi, the arbitrators, held the hearing in Phoenix on Tuesday and were expected to issue a decision Wednesday or Thursday.

#### **Favorite Trick is Favorite**

HORSE RACING Favorite Trick was named U.S. Horse of the Year Tuesday. He is only the second 2-year-old winner. The other was Secretariat in 1972.

#### Swann's Golden Goose

FOOTBALL Eric Swann, a defensive tackle, agreed to a five-year, \$25 million contract Wednesday with the Arizona Cardinals, making him one of the highest-paid line-men in the NFL. Swann, the Cardinals' first-round draft pick in 199, became an unrestricted free agent after last season. (AP)

## U.S. Soccer Team Pulls Off a Miracle

#### 68-Year Drought Against Brazil Ends With Single, Winning Goal

By Steven Herbert Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES - Preki Radosavljevic's goal midway through the second half gave the United States one of its greatest soccer victories ever Tuesday night, a 1-0 triumph over defending World Cup champion Brazil at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Inserted into the Concacaf Gold Cup semifinal against Brazil in the 60th minute, Radosavljevic made his first touch a historic one, taking Eric Wynalda's pass, dribbling twice before launching a 22-yard left-footed shot into the net in the 65th minute.

It was the U.S. team's first victory over Brazil in nine meetings after being outscored, 23-3, in eight losses. Ra-dosavljevic's goal was the first for the United States against Brazil in 68 years.

"It feels great," Radosavljevic said.
"To come off the bench and score against a team like Brazil is great.'

The victory put the United States into Sunday's championship match against the winner of Thursday's Jamaica-Mexico semifinal. Brazil, an invited guest to the biennial tournament for Caribbean and North and Central American national teams, will face the Jamaica-Mexico loser in Sunday's third-place match.

"This is one of the four top results in U.S. soccer history," coach Steve Sampson said.

Brazil - fielding some, but not all, of the team it will use to defend its World Cap title this summer in France --- furiously attempted to tie the match, seeking to avoid only its third loss since the 1994 title against 46 victories and 10 ties.

The U.S. goalkeeper, Kasey Keller, who had a phenomenal game, made a save on Romario, the star of the World Cup championship four years ago, in the 78th minute

Romario's 80th minute shot rolled wide of the empty net after Keller charged out to challenge him. Romario shot wide in the 83d minute and Keller made a save in the 86th minute on Elber de Souza's shot.

'It was a tremendous occasion for us," Keller said. "There are a lot of times when you make one or two saves to keep your team in the game, but to make three or four is rare.

Keller, who rejoined the U.S. team this week from his English Premier League club (Leicester City), kept Brazil at bay in the first half, atoning for defensive lapses with seven saves, several of them spectacular, while denying Romario.

The first came in the 11th minute,

Herald MERINGHONAL Eribune

PORTS

following Eddie Pope's turnover. Then in the 23d minute, Romario took Zinho's pass and dribbled past Alexi Lalas into the penalty area, only to be denied by Keller.

Eight minutes later, Edmundo fed Romario, with Keller again making the save. Finally, in the 41st minute, Keller stopped Romario's header from four

The U.S. team could do little offensively in the first half, as it was outshot, 13-3. The Americans either failed to string together enough passes for a credible attack or had their shots sail high or wide of the net. Wynalda had the Americans' only shot on goal, with Claudio Taffarel making a save in the 15th minute. Brazil increased the fervor of its at-

tack opening the second half, with a pair of shots in the 47th minute, including Flavio da Conceico's from inside the penalty area, rolling wide. D.C. United captain John Harkes had the Americans' first second-half scoring

chance, but his 56th-minute shot was high and wide. The victory increased the U.S. team's winning streak to six, the longest since the national team was founded in 1916.

Brazil had drawn intense criticism back home for ties with Jamaica and Guaternala in its first two Gold Cup matches, but rebounded with a 4-0 vic-tory over El Salvador Sunday, its final match in group play.

Despite its dominance in the all-time

series, Brazil's past three victories over the United States were by 1-0 scores, including two years ago in this tournament and four years ago in the World Cup round of 16.

#### ■ A Ronaldo-Vieri Swap?

Inter Milan has offered to swap Brazilian striker Ronaldo for Atletico Madrid's Christian Vieri, the Spanish sports daily As reported Wednesday, according to Reuters. Vieri has scored 13 league goals in as many matches since joining Atletico from Juventus.

## PGA Tour Chief Adds Up Score And Argues Martin Has Edge

By Thomas Heath Washington Post Service

EUGENE, Oregon - Allowing Casey Martin, a disabled golfer, to ride in a cart during tournament play instead of walking might save him only one stroke during an entire year on the PGA Tour, a top golf official

testified in court Tuesday. But even one stroke a year is too much of an edge, according to the PGA Tour commissioner, Tim Finchem, who was the last witness called by the PGA Tour. Finchem said that he sympathized with Martin's plight, but that giving him a cart would diminish the Tour's level of compe-

tition. "I understand his argument," Finchem said. "I don't know how you accomplish it. The only thing you can do is put players on the course with the same set of rules, with the same set of challenges and see who wins."

Finchem and Judy Bell, past president of the United States Golf Association, concluded the PGA Tour's defense in the five-day, nonjury tri-

Both sides will make their closing arguments Wednesday, and Judge Thomas Coffin said he would issue his ruling that afternoon.

Martin, 25, was born with Klippel-Trenamay-Weber syndrome, a cir-culation disorder that prevents blood from circulating normally in his right

leg.
Over the years his condition has worsened to such a degree that it prevents him from playing golf without the aid of a cart.

He is suing the PGA Tour under a provision of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act to force the organization to lift its "no cart" rule in tournament play. It marks the first time that an athlete has used the act to gain access to professional sports.



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Brazil's Dorivai Guidoni Jr., left, trying to get the ball away from Joe Max-Moore of the United States.

#### Guinea Fights Back To Hold Cameroon soccer industry on Wednes-

OUAGADOUGOU,

Barkina Faso - Souleymane Oulare scored twice in the second half to earn Guinea a 2-2 draw with Cameroon on Wednesday in the African Nations' Cup.
Cameroon's Indomitable

Lions, who have qualified for World Soccin

the World Cup finals, built a 2-0 lead by halftime in the

Group C match. Alphonse Tchami, who scored the first goal of the tournament against host Burkina Faso on Saturday, gave Cameroon the lead in ninth minute. Pierre Wome Nlend made it 2-0 just before halftime.

Oluare's two goals made him the top scorer in the tournament, with three.

On Tuesday in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso's second city, Hossam Hassan rekindled memories of past glories with two goals for Egypt as it beat Mozambique, 2-0, in a Group D match.

The 31-year-old striker played in the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy but had been ignored by for Egypt's national team in recent

rehabilitation by His coach Mahmoud Gohari, his manager at Italia '90, paid dividends as Hassan scored two well-taken goals that set the Egyptians off to a solid start in the competition. Zambia and World Cup fi-

nalists Morocco drew, 1-1, in Group D on Monday, so Egypt tops the group. Mozambique, which has yet to win a match in three tournament, rarely troubled Egypt's strong defense.

SHIPS Five countries, including Austria and Hungary in a joint bid, are seeking to be host of the European championship finals in 2004. Portugal, Spain and Switzerland told UEFA,

European soccer's governing body, by the deadline Tuesday that they were interested in staging the tournament. UEFA said Wednesday

BRAZIL Pele won his battle

stressed they would submit a joint bid, while Portugal had indicated it was only prepared to be host if it could find another member country as a partner. UEFA will announce its choice in July The next European finals are to be organized jointly by

that Austria and Hungary had

Belgium and the Netherlands

to reform Brazil's chaotic

right now," Pele said shortly after the bill was approved. He said the bill would create jobs and open up the clubs. The bill, which has to be by President signed Fernando Henrique Cardoso to become law, will also allow clubs to set up their own leagues, weakening the

day when the country's Sen-

ate approved a bill that re-

quires clubs to become businesses within two years.

Brazilian clubs are bankrupt

'We often forget but most

power of the Brazilian Football Confederation, or CBF. That proposal angered Joao Havelange, the president of FIFA, the governing of world soccer. Havelange's son-in-law runs the CBF. When the bill was sent to Congress last year, Havelange, who is Brazilian, said he would kick Brazil out of the 1998 World Cup if it were approved.

#### Australia Wins

Ernie Tapai scored the only goal Wednesday as Australia beat South Korea, a World Cup finalist, in an international friendly, Reuters reported from Sydney.

Tapai swept home a cross from striker Kris Trajanovski in the 39th minute to give Terry Venables a victory in what could be his penultimate match as Australia' coach.

Venables, whose team lost, 1-0, to Chile in Melbourne on Saturday, has yet to announce whether he will stay on after his contract expires in June.

Australia faces Japan in Adelaide on Sunday in its last scheduled friendly before the end of the coach's 20-month

#### SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

CARIBBEAN SERIES

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MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES

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#### TRANSITIONS

NATIONAL BASISETBALL ASSOCIATION

Feb. 5 game.

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ATLANTA—Agreed to terms with OF Gerold Williams on 1-year contract.

CHICAGO—Agreed to terms with 3B Jose Hernondez on 1-year contract.

CINCINANT—Agreed to terms with INF Demion Jockson on 1-year contract.

MONTREAL—Agreed to terms with INF Carlos Perez on 1-year contract.

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dissignation:
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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

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and F Jornie Wright to Michigan, IHL.

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## Say It's So: A Pardon for 'Shoeless Joe' TASHINGTON - There is

more than meets the casual Y eye in the published report that the exalted duo of Ted Williams and Bob Feller are in revolt against the enduring banishment of "Shoeless Joe" Jackson from major league baseball.

They are calling loudly for an action by the lords of baseball that will restore Jackson's name to the rolls of the game and pave the way for his election to its shrine, Cooperstown's Hall of Fame. Williams and Feller are playing hard-

ball, not content merely to voice their opinions on the subject. They have brought into the fray four lawyers who have worked up a 50-page presentation to the acting commissioner's office, hammering home their version of an extraorde injustice to a surrough half outrageous injustice to a super ball-player whose name for nearly 80 years has suffered the shame of the Black Sox scandai of 1919.

Obviously, Williams and Feller, like so many other American fans, are buy-ing into the belief that Jackson's guilt was somewhat forgivable — that he was the uneducated, onetime South Carolina mill hand, a bumpkin, a naif unpracticed in the sharpie ways of teammates who solicited the bribes from gamblers, and unaware of the enormity of their deed, and his.

His moniker, "Shoeless Joe" was a natural. He had been a barefoot kid who liked to play the outfield barefooted in factory games. Jackson died 47 years ago. But im-

portant baseball people such as Wil-

Vantage Point/SHIRLEY POVICE

liams and Feller are now saying "Enough is enough," and their names have clout. Their admiration for Jackson as ballplayer is understandable. Four years out of the South Carolina mills, he became the only major league rookie ever to hit .400 (.408), barely

Choi Yong Soo of South Korea rising to head the ball

past Australia's Mark Babic in Sydney on Wednesday.

losing the batting title to Ty Cobb. How good a ballplayer was Joe Jack-son? His career average of .356 is the third finest in history. Babe Ruth, who played in the same era said, "I patterned my swing after Shoeless Joe's." Walter Johnson, who pitched against all the great hitters of two decades, said of Jackson, "Toughest bitter I ever faced."

All those batting averages Jackson amassed — 408, 395, 373, 382 were the best four in full seasons — and .356 lifetime, would naturally gain the interest and admiration of Williams, who in his playing days was obsessed with numbers, particularly his own.

Jackson was one of the eight White Sox who were indicted during the 1920 season for allegedly conspiring to take gamblers' money and "throw" the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds. But the indicted players were found not guilty during the trial when records of three crucial confessions including Jackson's — disappeared. The records and confessions had van-

ishedand the Black Sox eight had gotten away with their crime. But they didn't get away with their careers. The game's owners, in a rapid effort to restore public confidence in

baseball, promptly hired a stern federal judge. Kenesaw Mountain Landis, as their high commissioner, raising his pay from the judicial scale of \$12,000 to baseball's \$50,000. Landis promptly ruled and all eight Black Sox were banished from baseball for life, and that has

been baseball history for the last 79 The anti-Jackson group is shuddering that his restoration to the game would pave the way for the only living sus-pended-for-life player. Pete Rose, to apply for and win Hall of Fame con-

sideration\_ Rose was banished for betting on ames while managing the Reds. Unlike Jackson, Rose didn't confess. never admitted anything. But in his curious agreement with then-commissioner Bart Giamatti, Rose accepted life sus-

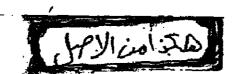
pension from the game if whatever sin

he committed was not put on the public Of that pact, Giamatti's successor. Fay Vincent said, "We didn't see the, need to spell out anything as long as Rose accepted the equivalent of the electric chair."

That Williams and Feller have clout that would be helpful to Jackson is agreed. That Shoeless Joe was less 2 conspirator than he was preyed-upon is very possible. That a great ballplayer who lapsed, who shook public confidence in the game, should be given back his good name, I dunno. Maybe it is time

BLOVORE

MUNMENT



**SPORTS** 

# FURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 in



sore of the United States.

## d Cameroo

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Shoeless Joe" SHIRLEY POVICE

The Park of Falls in production of the same of the Banc 13

Bull back

## Wizards' 6th Man Hits Season-High 50 star was not around when the game game. He finished with 12 points,

With their top two scorers sidelined by injuries, the Washington Wizards were looking for an offensive spark. Tracy Murray gave it to them.

Murray scored 50 points — his areer high and the highest in the National Basketball Association this season — to lead the Wizards over

The Associated Press

#### NBA ROUNDUP

othe Golden State Warriors, 99-87, on Tuesday night.
"He shot the lights out," said Joe

Smith, who scored a season-high 36 points for Golden State. "Sometimes, he didn't even have the ball for a second and he wasn't hitting noth-

Murray is normally Washington's sixth man, but he started against the Warriors because Chris Webber and Juwan Howard were out with injuries. Murray went 18-for-29 from the field, including five 3-pointers, and made 9 of 10 free throws. "He's a great shooter when he gets

going and gets looks, and he had both going all night," said Golden State's coach, P. J. Carlesimo.

Murray topped his previous career high of 40, set against Denver in 1996. His 50 points also were one more than the previous NBA high this season, set by Michael Jordan and Antoine Walker.

Rod Strickland also contributed to the Wizards' victory, getting 21 points, 20 assists and 12 rebounds. Trail Blazers 117, Lakers 105 Isaiah Rider scored 16 of his 24 points in the third quarter to help Portland beat Los Angeles, but the troubled Blazers'

Rider, benched the entire first quarter by Mike Dunleavy for missing a pregame meeting, exchanged words with his coach after being pulled with about seven minutes left in the game. After motioning to his girlfriend in the stands, Rider headed for the locker room and did not return. Dunleavy did not say whether Rider would be suspended or fined.

Rider already has been suspended for five games by the NBA this season — two after a conviction for possessing unregistered cellular phones, and three for spitting on a fan in Detroit in November.

Shaquille O'Neal led the visiting Lakers with 31 points.

Pacers 85, Magic 66 Orlando's 66 points were the fewest scored against Indiana since the Pacers joined the NBA in 1976. Orlando suffered another loss, as

Penny Hardaway bruised his left foot in the first quarter and did not play after that. Hardaway, who was on the injured list from Dec. 8 to Jan. 29 after having surgery on his left knee, was making his first start in two

Reggie Miller and Rik Smits each scored 16 points for the Pacers. Nick Anderson got 16 for the visiting Ma-

Mason received a mixed greeting in his first game since being charged with statutory rape.

Boos and cheers rang from the crowd in New York as Mason, a

nine rebounds and five assists for Charlotte.

John Starks scored 26 points for the Knicks. Vernon Maxwell, playing on a 10-day contract, led Charlotte with 22 points.

Nets 90, Mavericks 81 Sam Cassell scored 18 of his 26 points in the second half as New Jersey handed Dallas its 21st consecutive road loss. Keith Van Horn had 17 points for New Jersey, while Jayson Williams had 15 points and 13 rebounds. Mi-

Heat 91, Cavaliers 81 Jamal Mashburn scored 21 points and Miami shut down the Cavaliers' rookie star, Zydrunas Ilgauskas, to win its fourth

Ilgauskas, coming off an outstand-ing performance in the NBA All-Star rookie game, was held to eight

Alonzo Mourning scored 16 points for visiting Miami. Rockets 97, SuperSonics 83 Charles Barkley, making a rare appearance off the bench, grabbed 21 rebounds and scored 12 points as

Touston beat Seattle. Clyde Drexler scored 19 points for the Rockets and Hakeem Olajuwon

had 12 points and 10 rebounds in his first start since November. Gary Payton led the Sonics with 20

Bulle 93, Raptors 86 On a night vhen Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen were a combined 9-of-28 from the field, Toni Kukoc helped the popular former Knick who grew up in Bulls avert an upset at the United that city, was introduced before the Center, where they are 22-2 this sea-

son. Kukoc scored 21 points against visiting Toronto. Damon Stoudamire led Toronto

with 19 points. Hawks 108, Bucks 100 Steve Smith scored 27 points and Alan Henderson had 19 points and 15 rebounds in his first start of the season for Atlanta

The visiting Hawks played without Christian Laettner, who had the flu, and Eldridge Recasner, who is in-

The Bucks played without their starting point guard, Terrell Brandon, who has an ankle injury, and were led chael Finley paced the Mavs with 26 by Ray Allen's 28 points.

Jazz 106, Clippers 98 Karl Malone had 29 points and 14 rebounds, Jeff Hornacek added 21 points and Utah outscored Los Angeles 31-14 in the third quarter.

James Robinson led the Clippers with 22 points and Eric Piatkowski

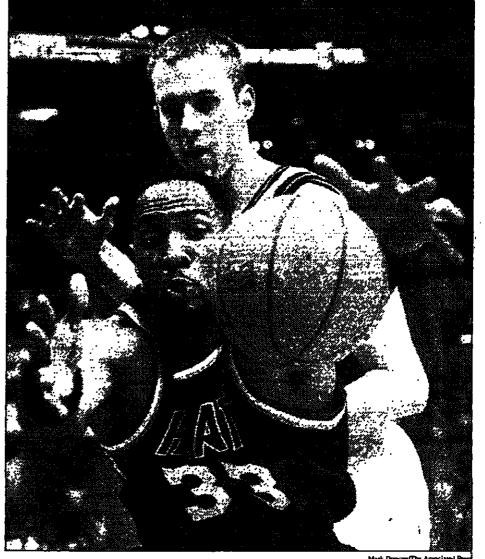
Suns 88, Kings 86 Rex Chapman's one-handed running jumper with 1.8 seconds lifted Phoenix over Sacra-

Jason Kidd led the Suns with 21 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Chapman and Antonio Mc-

Dyess each added 16 points. Corliss Williamson led the visiting Kings with 26 points. Nuggets 112, Celtics 99 Johnny Newman scored 20 of his 34 points in

the fourth quarter and Bobby Jackson added 14 points and 14 assists for Denver. The Nuggets committed 28

turnovers against Boston's pressure defense, but compensated by shooting a season-high 60 percent from the



Miami's center, Alonzo Mourning, reaching for the ball under pressure from the Cavaliers' rookie Zydrunas Ilgauskas. The Heat prevailed in Cleveland, 91-81

## Freshman's Birthday Gift To Bulldogs — A Victory

The Associated Press Jumaine Jones is unlikely to forget

his 19th birthday. Years from now, the Georgia freshman can recall the night he scored 27 points and 17 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs to an 86-70 victory over No. 12

Both figures were season highs for the 6-foot-7 (2-meter) forward, who

#### COLLEGE BASKETABALL

was 11-of-22 from the field Tuesday. including 2-of-4 from 3-point range.

"I had a lot of phone calls from home

wishing me a happy birthday," said Jones, Georgia's top recruit last year. Ron Jirsa, the first-year Georgia coach, formance - what a birthday he had?" The loss snapped a six-game winning

streak for the Razorbacks (20-4, 9-2 Southeastern Conference), who had last lost, 80 to 77, in overtime at No. 7 Kennicky on Jan. 17. "It was just one of those nights," Nolan Richardson, the Arkansas coach,

said of his team's performance Tues-day. "We weren't quite the basketball team that we have been at home or on Jones stole the spotlight, but reserve guard Detrick Dukes excelled in the second half for the Bulldogs (12-11, 4-7), who had lost eight of their last 11.

Dukes, who played just one minute in

the first half, scored 14 points in the

second half, all but two on 3-pointers.

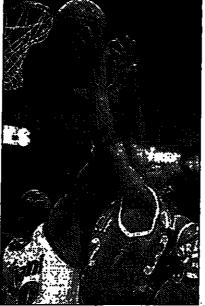
Georgia went on a 16-2 run to take a 78-64 lead with 4:23 left, a spurt capped by the last of Dukes' 3-pointers. He had six points in the run, and Jones had five. Derek Hood led the visiting Razorbacks with 15 points.

No. 2 Duke 85, Florida St. 72 The Blue Devils (22-2, 11-1) shot 59 percent in the first half and took advantage of 15 turnovers in building a 25-point lead at halftime. The game was the third in six days for Duke. Trajan Langdon led the Blue Devils with 18 points. Corey Louis had 16 points for the visiting Seminoles

No. 8 Purdue 94, Indiana 89 Chad Austin and Brad Miller each scored 23 points as the Boilermakers (21-4, 9-2 Big Ten) won. Purdue led by 13 points midway through the second half before the Hoosiers rallied, tying the game at 74-74. Andrae Patterson had 21 of his seasonhigh 27 points in the second half for the Hoosiers (16-7, 7-4), who beat Purdue, 94-88, in Bloomington — their only victory in the schools' last six meetings.

Indiana trailed 92-89 on a 3-pointer by A. J. Guyton with 13 seconds left and had a chance to tie after Guyton stole the inbounds pass, but Rob Turner missed a 3-point attempt. Miller was fouled when he got the rebound, and he made two free throws with five seconds left.

No. 25 Rhode Island 69, No. 17 Ge thington 61 Cuttino Mobley scored 25 points and Luther Clay added 19 as the Rams (18-5, 9-2 Atlantic 10) won their fifth straight game. Yegor Mescheriakov had 14 points for the Colonials (20-4, 9-



nings, left, and Syracuse's Ryan Blackwell going for the rebound.

2), who had won seven straight overall and 13 in a row at home.

68 Lari Ketner had 23 points and eight rebounds for the visiting Minutemen (18-6, 10-1), who tied an Atlantic 10 record by posting their ninth consecutive season with at least 10 conference victories. Mike James had 20 points for the Dukes (10-14, 4-7).

No. 23 Syracuse 72, Mismi 63 The Orangemen (18-5, 8-4 Big East) improved to 6-1 in conference road games as Jason Hart scored 19 points. Tim James had 24 points and 12 rebounds for the Hurricanes (15-6, 8-5).

## As Tourney Nears, Huskies Close Gap

You counted the days until Midnight Madness. You sat through firstsemester basketball, uneven games played by inconsistent teams.

You filled out tournament brackets in your head, tearing them up and making revisions based on the previous night's

Congratulations, Hoopheads. You've made it to the best time of the year. Weeks of growth have created a sense

of discovery in the players. North Carolina controlled Duke in the decisive stretches of their No. 1 versus No. 2 meeting last week. Duke's freshmen, who struggled at first with the intensity at that level, fought back to within four points near the end, close enough to believe that the next time will be different. St. John's, confused and angry in late December, has won 9 of 10 to return the noise to Alumni Hall.

Saturday to a degree that cannot be attributed solely to the Cardinal's fatigue from a cross-country trip. "As the games get better and better," said Richard Hamilton of Connecticut, "we

just get better and better as a team." It is three weeks until the national tournament committee gathers in Kansas City, but the brackets are beginning to form. When Connecticut overwhelmed Stanford with its defensive pressure, the Huskies took a step toward securing a place just beneath the clite, a group of six or seven schools still hoping to gain a No. 1 seeding.

'It doesn't make us a better team than Carolina or Duke or Kansas or Arizona," said Jim Calhoun, the Connecticut coach. "I think Arizona is the

Vantage Point / MALCOLM MORAN

best. I don't think we're light-years behind. But we are behind." But how small has the gap become?

That is the question February inspires, as long as 40 minutes in March can change the way an outstanding season is remembered. Ask the Kansas Jayhawks. whose tournament run ended abruptly with loss to Arizona in the round of 16 last year. Ask the 1994 North Carolina Tar Heels or Connecticut Huskies, teams with Final Four expectations

whose seasons ended much too soon. Calhoun understood that his team's game Wednesday night at West Virginia, where the Mountaineers have a record of 11-1, could negate the surge of confidence the Stanford game provided. Calhonn has seen very good teams re-spond uncharacteristically in March. He derstood the danger of d

team has arrived. "I don't want to sweep the brush so broad that all of a sudden we're there," Calhoun said.

But the sense of discovery was in his eyes, too, last Saturday. If there were 20 elements Calhoun could have cited for his team to beat Stanford, the coach said, "we probably did 19 of them." His team's precise, disciplined defensive effort demonstrated that the Huskies can play a 94-foot game against an opponent with the size, power and talent to shrink the court to 25 feet. 'Because you have to face pressure,' Calhoun said.

Connecticut's defensive pressure. full court and with those dangerous traps in the middle of the floor, became

GEE, I WISH YOU COULD STAY FOREYER.

the signature of the 1990 team that came within a Christian Laettner shot of reaching the Final Four. Led by Hamilton, a sophomore swingman who has averaged 22.3 points in Big East play, these Huskies have used the pressure to build a 21-3 record.

A year ago, in an 18-15 season that came apart after the National Collegiate Athletic Association suspended Ricky Moore and Kirk King for accepting airplane tickets from an agent, Hamilton was forced to play point guard. His progress was delayed by the need for him to play out of position and obscured by his feam's record

This season, the addition of the outgoing freshman point guard Khalid El-Amin has added creativity and depth to the backcourt and allowed Hamilton to return to the wing. He joined Ray Alle as the only sophomores in Connecticut history to exceed 1,000 points.

Calhoun was concerned that the stress of last season — "shell-shocked" is the description he chose - might carry over to this one. He has seen players respond quietly and unemotionally to the demands of tournament time. In early January, after a loss at Miami, Calhoun reminded his players that there was nothing wrong with showing how they feel.

The Huskies are surprising themselves. They are rearranging the brackets. They are laughing along the way. "That's something we've worked on the most," Calhoun said. "Getting them to enjoy themselves playing basketball. These are special days. And they'll go by quick.'

#### **DENNIS THE MENACE**





We didn't be a

Sarah Wershof in our London office: Tel.: +44 1 71 420 0326 Fax: +44 1 71 420 0338 or your nearest IHT office or representative.

#### **PEANUTS**



THIS TIME I REALLY SPILLED THE BEANS!



PYLAW KILLER ITALIC test to cet its attention — A LITTLE

ENTERTAINMENT Appears every Wednesday in ermarket. To advertise conta



I'M NOT HER SWEET BOO, AND I WOULDN' GIVE HER A VALENTINE IF SHE WERE THE LAST PERSON ON EARTH!



HI, LINDA?

WAIT HERE .. I'LL











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WINTER'S

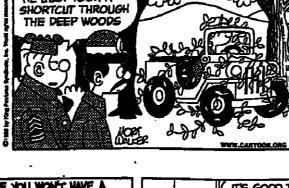
BOOP BEEP



WATCH AND LEARN GARFIELD



I'M SURE





HE JUST TOOK A







**CALVIN AND HOBBES** 

TOMORROW IS THAT SOON ENOUGH?







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THE BEGINNING AND END



DOONESBURY

WHAT A NICE THING TO SAY! KNITE ALL RIGHT, CALVIN,





THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1998

#### PAGE 20

#### OLYMPIC ROUNDUP

#### More Snow Forecast

**WEATHER** Olympic organizers moved the start of the men's downhill forward an hour for fear that an approaching storm might deposit more snow on the slopes.

They switched the scheduled start from 10 A.M. Thursday to 9 A.M. The men's combined downhill was moved from 2 P.M. to

The Japan Meteorological Agency said snow and high winds were expected Thursday afternoon. The downhill was originally scheduled for Sunday, the first full day of the Games, but storms have forced the downhill to be rescheduled four

#### U.S. and Canada Lead

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY The United States beat Finland, 4-2, Wednesday in a pivotal game for both teams. Sarah Tueting, the U.S. goalie, made 20 saves on 22 shots, and Vicki Movsessian and Tara Mounsey scored on power plays.

Danielle Goyette scored twice as

Canada beat Sweden, 5-3

The United States and Canada are tied at the top of the standings. The top two teams at the end of the preliminary rounds will go directly to the gold-medal game.

#### Out of the Games

SPEED SKATING Erben Wennemars of the Netherlands, who separated his left shoulder in the 500-meter race Tuesday, will not be able to compete in two other Olympic events.

#### **Bobsledder Ejected**

prugs Michael Dionne, a bobsledder, was removed from the U.S. Olympic team after his drug suspension was upheld, but he was urged to stay in Nagano because he was guilty only of "careless-

#### A Couple of Cliff-Hangers

HISTORY The women's luge and super-G ski races were decided Wednesday by the smallest margins in the history of either Olympic sport.

Two-thousandths of a second was the margin of Silke Kraushaar's victory over Barbara Niedernhuber after four runs in

One-hundredth of a second was the margin of Picabo Street's victory over Michaela Dorfmeister in the women's super-G.



Michelle Kwan, a U.S. figure skater, practicing Wednesday for Thursday's short program.

Jonny Moseley performing the 360-degree turn that helped him win gold.

## Moseley's Acrobatics Give U.S. Its First Gold Medal

By Amy Shipley
Washington Post Service

NAGANO, Japan — Under bright sunshine Wednesday morning, the freestyle skier Jonny Moseley finally put the United States on the medal scoreboard. Skiing last of 16 skiers in the moguls event, Moseley won the gold medal

by wowing the judges and the crowd with a spectacular 360-degree spin on the last jump of his run.

When he crossed the finish line. Moseley, 22, raised his arms and cheered. When his score was announced, he fell to his knees and thrust his fists into the air again.

"I'm just so happy," Moseley said.
"This is the greatest feeling I've ever had in my life. I was supernervous. I had pressure from myself, but because I have worked so hard, I knew I could win. I just breathed in the energy of the crowd. The crowd was thumping;

everyone was so loud.' Janne Lahtela of Finland won the silver with a 26.00 score, 0.93 behind Moseley. Another Finn, Sami Mustonen, won the bronze, scoring 25.76.

Moseley has been the overall World Cup champion in freestyle skiing twice, which includes aerials and moguls, but he decided this year to concentrate solely on moguls. He wanted a chance at his dream: an Olympic gold.

"It's the best feeling in the world,"

he said. "I just had this rush over my body when I got down. It was like everything I had worked for so long had

He said he knew he had won after he did the 360-degree turn.

Moseley, a business and finance ma-jor at the University of California, has been competing in freestyle skiing for

Though he has won 13 World Cup gold medals and one bronze medal in the 1995 world championships, he had not won an Olympic medal before Wed-

than anything I've ever done," Moseley had said last year. "I want to win over there and I want to do it with a great run, one that's really exciting."

An Olympic medal sport since the 1992 Winter Games in Albertville, France, the moguls event requires skiing a line down a course and performing aerial maneuvers off the course's two

Moseley's 360-degree turn was the most difficult maneuver executed Wed-

"I'm going to party like crazy." he said. "I'm going to party like you've

#### never seen me party. ■ Japanese Takes Women's Gold

Tae Satoya of Japan was the surprise winner in the women's freestyle moguls event. The Associated Press reported. Satova, 21, had never won a major championship. She was 11th after the qualifying, but a sizzling run in the final

earned her 25.06 points. Satoya, whose father died last year, carried his picture in her pocket during the race.

"I've had a tough time for the last year," she said. "My father was watching me from somewhere today."

Tatjana Mittermayer of Germany won the silver with 24.62 points, and Kari Traa of Norway took the bronze

# A Winter's Tale of Hope and Fear

## Coach Put Picabo Street on a Slow Track to Olympic Glory

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service

AKUBA, Japan — On the morning of the race that would define Picabo Street as an Olympic champion forever, her coach skied the mountain and reached a conclusion This super-G course looked more to him like a downhill course.

"Pic," Herwig Demschar told Street. "On this course, there is hardly any turning. It's a course is for downhill skis. Let's put them on."

"If you say so, let's go for it," Street said. She unpacked the downhill skis, longer by 10 or 12 centimeters (four to five inches), according to Demschar.

The world's most elite super-giant sialom racers, most notably the World Cup leader, Katja Seizinger of Germany, showed up with the shorter skis. Only Street, it turned out, had speed through the course's flat, gliding sections. She won the event by one onehundreth of a second, in a time of 1:18.02. The first 16 skiers were separated by less than a second.

Street believed in Demschar, and it won her the gold medal promised to her father 16 years ago when she was 10. "Athletes and coaches have a lot of

trust." Demschar said. They had better in this thrill-ride sport, under frightful conditions, at hairraising speeds. Make the decision and live with it, a concept Demschar understands better than most.

How this 38-year-old Austrian came to be in Street's corner Wednesday afternoon, as opposed to that of the Austrian skiers Michaela Dorfmeister and Alexandra Meissnitzer - who won the silver and bronze -- is in itself a cautionary tale of skiers and coaches, of life and death. Demschar previously coached the

Austrian women for nine years and the Austrian men for six years before that. "One of my skiers died," he said, holding up a pair of skis in the snow near the finish line, long after the race, the area nearly deserted.

"There is an unwritten rule," Demschar said. "If you have an athlete die, you change the coach. Because you do not want the coach in the way of the athlete.'

It was the talk of the alpine venue four years ago in Lillehammer, Norway. champion in the downhill, had, on Jan. gram, called. The women's job was

of her right ski on the lower third of a World Cup downhill in Garmisch-

Partenkirchen, Germany. Ulrike Maier suffered a broken neck. She was 26 years old and the mother of

#### VANTAGE POINT

a young child and the horrible fatality was watched all over Austria on live television.

Demschar made the call from the hospital to Maier's father that day to tell him his daughter had not survived. He paid his condolences the next day at the Maiers' home in Rauris, Austria. The Maiers, he remembered, understood that their daughter had chosen a dangerous game.

They were inconsolable but understanding. Many others in Austria were "You have to understand that being a

ski coach in Austria is a very high-profile thing." Demschar said. "It is like being a football coach in the States, like being the coach of the Chicago Bulls. And what was the big problem was that Ulie was very popular and, of course, already a mother

There were charges of manslaughter brought, he said, against two skiing officials. Demschar believes that had those charges not been dropped, he would have been next.

Maier's boyfriend, a ski racer whom Demschar, as men's coach, had dismissed from the team, publicly accused him of pressuring Maier to push herself faster down the mountain than she could

Perception and reality makes it a dangerous game for coaches, too. And then came the threatening calls. "You killed her.

Finally, the following Christmas eve: Enjoy it because it's going to be your

"I was having emotional problems," Demschar said "I realized it's a dangerous sport but it's a tough thing to call the father and say, 'Your daughter has

Demschar was told by the directors of the Austrian national program to take a year off and return for reassignment. His wife, Michelle, talked him into a vacation in her native Australia. There, Demschar's skier, a two-time world Paul Major, who runs the U.S. ski pro-

29, just prior to the Games, lost control vacant. Demschar started over in America, where one of his new stars was the emerging Picabo Street.

After winning the downhill silver in Lillehammer, Street was on a roll right to the top. It was something unheard of — an American winning the overall World Cup title in 1995. The following winter, she tore three ligaments in herleft knee. Her surgeon, Richard Steadman called it "more serious" than the countless skiing knee injuries he had-

Headstrong as ever, the 26-year-old Street was determined to be primed for the Games in Nagano, but when she went out to practice the super-G one day last September, she felt a frightening ache in her knee. She sat down on the side of the course and cried.

A voice in the back of Demschar's head was telling him to put the reins on Street, hold her out of the early World" Cup season. But was this the prudent, professional strategy, or a case of a once-traumatized coach in the way ofthe athlete?

Demschar didn't know, so he consulted his best friend, his wife. She toldhim his instincts were right.

How did she know. "She's a woman," said Street. And? "And women can read each other's" emotions," she said.

They took the safe, slow approach: By January, Street was back on tour; skiing her way into Olympic shape. Then came another one of life's crossroads for Street and for Demschar. Ski-" ing a downhill on Jan. 31 in Are. Sweden. Street skied off the course, skidded out of control, crashed into a fence, face first, and was out cold.

On the mountain, Demschar was frozen in his tracks. Had his worst nightmare recurred? Could he himself survive another?

Demschar the man could not bring himself to rush over and look. Demschar the coach was already

planning for what would come next. 'As a coach, after an injury like'. Pic's, you hope she does crash but gets up," he said. "This is the only way she knows she can do it again.'

Street got up. She had broken her favorite skis. Her head and neck ached, and still do. But Street was finally ready; for the Olympics, she said. Ready for the super-G. All she needed was a tip

## sday. "The Olympics motivate me more STREET: A Golden Reward for American in Super-G Slalom

#### Continued from Page 1

through the course," she said, "and it made me mad and I just went for it." Asked if she was surprised to win the gold medal, she said repeatedly, "Yes, I am. I am."

'Everyone comes to the Olympics to win a medal, particularly gold. But to look up there and see my name at the top of the list," she said, pausing, "I just don't know what to say. I'm frustrated because I can't even find the words." After having a little more time to reflect on her accomplishment, she said,

"It's unbelievable." "I don't have so much pressure on myself in the super-G," she added. "I think some of the other people expect more of themselves in the super-G than

The night before, Street was concerned that she was in trouble because she had drawn the second starting spot. Given the amount of snow that had fallen in Hakuba in recent days, it was very possible that the course would be packed down and therefore would race faster for skiers who made their runs later in the competition.

"I was really burnmed about it, because it didn't look like a very good start number," she said. "But I'm happy about it now. It was the best start num-ber in the world."

Street finished in one minute 18.02 seconds, edging Michaela Dorfmeister of Austria by one one-hundredth of a second. Alexandra Meissnitzer, also an Austrian, finished third to win the bronze medal in 1:18.09.

Katja Seizinger of Germany, the rerace favorite, finished in sixth place in 1:18.44. The highly regarded German skiers finished 6th, 7th and 10th.

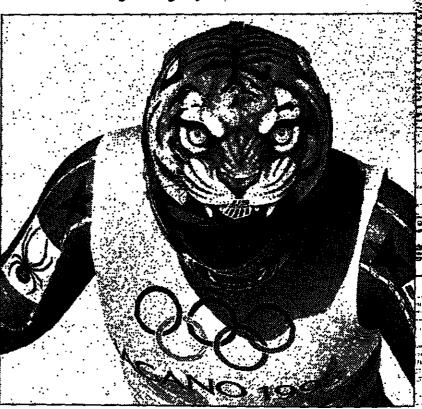
was very slow when she came down, but added. "I cannot blame only that for my defeat. I expected Picabo to do well on this course. She's quite crazy and can be very good, especially in one-day

had two weeks ago probably helped her coming into the Olympics. 'I think I needed a big crash to get my

Ironically, Street believes the fall she

mind off my knee," she said. "I'm no thinking about my knee anymore. "It has been a long year, so many upar and so many downs. I finally was able to get into form to attack the course."

When someone wondered how she was holding back tears of joy, Street, said, "I've already cried. I stopped, I've; cried, I've stopped. What a day. It's a dream come true for me."



Seizinger said she thought the course Picabo Street crossing the finish line, wearing her favorite racing helmet.

## The Skier Who Lifted Postwar Japan

New York Times Service

AGANO, Japan — He was a boy of 14 living in Shiga, a northern mountain village, when in Au-gust 1945 Japan surrendered to end World War II. And Chiharu Igaya feared that awful things would happen to his country, to his family, to him. He had seen statues in the temples and shrines of menacing devils of centuries past, and he had been led to believe that Americans looked like that. "We were brainwashed by our gov-

emment that Americans were terrible people," Igaya, now 66, recalled Wed-nesday. "Probably in the way Americans were made to think of the Jap-Igaya remembers his mother cutting her hair so, he said, she might look like

a man when American soldiers arrived. But we soon heard that the American soldiers were treating people kindly, During the war, Igaya's family had little food and scoured the forests for wild vegetables to ear. "Yet we still skied," he said. "I was skiing since I

could walk." Even now, when he is a stocky and baldish insurance executive living in Tokyo, one can still sense an athletic presence about Igaya and could imagine him as a young skier. He is at these Olympic Games not only because his country is host but also because he is a member of the International Olympic Committee and a former silver medal

After World War II, Igaya became a

Vantage Point/IRA BERKOW

national star, even beating Tadashi Katagiri, some 10 years his senior, who had been considered the best skier in the country. Igaya had only a vague knowledge of the Olympics at the time, other than what little his father had told him. In 1948, he knew two things about the Olympics, however. One was that the greatest athletes in the world compete

against each other. Second was that

Japan, as punishment for the war, was not allowed to participate. Then one evening in 1950, after a hard day's training, Igaya's father, Kunio, greeted him: "Chiharu, I have good news for you." The boy asked, "What is it, father?" He was told that the IOC planned to readmit Japan and it would be eligible for Oslo in 1952. "From that day forward," said Igaya, "I began preparing for my chance for the Olympics."

He made the team, and expected prob-lems from other skiers. "We were not a popular or respected country," he He encountered befuddlement rather than hostility. "Many people in Europe were amazed that Japan had a ski team," he said. "They thought we were a tropical country where coconut and nana trees were grown.

Before leaving for Oslo, Igaya, then

21, spoke with Katagiri, who was no

longer able to compete at the highest

levels. "I hope you will also ski for

luck. He finished 11th in the slalom but

said the older man, wishing Igaya

gained confidence that he could compete with world-class skiers. In the 1956 Games in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, he won the silver medal. "From the defeat in the war, we had

lost our pride as a nation," said Igaya. I hoped when I stood on the winners podium and saw the Japanese flag flying on the pole and the medal was handed to me — which was the way they did it in those days, instead of draping it around one's neck - that in some small way this might help lift my country's spir-

Igaya did not go directly home. By now he was a student at Dartmouth University, the American college and captain of the ski team. He had already been made to feel comfortable and accepted on campus. "The only time I didn't feel like an American there was in the morning," he said, "when I looked in the mirror and saw my skin."

At spring break following his winning the silver medal, Igaya returned to Japan. He wasn't prepared for what followed. Thousands welcomed him at the airport in Tokyo. Katagiri, his old ski rival, embraced him. "Omedeto," he said - congramlations.

That night, Igaya returned to his vil-lage. Thousands lined the road for a mile as he traveled on a bus from the train station to town hall. The people held lanterns and chanted Chiharu Igaya's name. "I was very embarrassed," he said, "and very happy."

## On Icy Track, Milliseconds Count

By Bernie Wilson The Associated Press

NAGANO, Japan — Blink and you would have missed Silke Kraushaar's winning margin Wednesday in Olympic

Kraushaar, 27, won the closest luge race in Olympic history, edging her

Lucz

German teammate Barbara Niedernhaber by 0.002 of a second to take the gold medal.

The two Olympic rookies were separated by about five centimeters (two inches) after nearly 4.8 kilometers (three miles) of sliding. Kraushaar and Niedernhuber, who had had to wait their turn for a spot on

Germany's formidable luge team, were

unned that their medals were decided by milliseconds. Actually, I haven't even realized that I am an Olympic champion right now,"
Kraushaar said. "It will take one or two days that I can think it all over and really settle down with my gold medal."
Niedernhuber, 23, said .002 of a

second "is nothing." "Four runs and two thousandths? Unbelievable," she said.

The women's bronze medal went to an Austrian, Angelika Neuner, who finished 0.474 of a second behind

Luge and short-track skating are the only Winter Olympic sports timed in thousandths of a second, and Kraushaar and Niedernhuber put the clock to Niedernhuber led by just six thou-

sandths of a second going into the final run down the 15-turn Spiral. With the starting order flip-flopped, Kraushaar took to the icy track ahead of Niedernhuber, finishing in 50.617 The race was then Niedernhuber's to

win or lose, and she could not retain her slim margin, finishing in 50.625. Kraushaar clapped her hands in delight after Niedernhuber's run, and her teammate forced a smile. Then the two

Kraushaar finished the four runs in three minutes, 23.779 seconds. Niedernhuber was timed in 3:23.781 and Neuner in 3:24.253.

OLYMPIC SCHEDULE THURSDAY, FRE. 1 2

ALPINE SKISNO, Hokubo— Men: Downhill, 9
a.m.: Combined (Downhill), Noon.

OROSS COUNTRY SKISNO, Hokubo— Men:
10km classical 9 a.m. Women: 10km free, Noon.

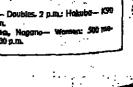
CURLING, Korukowo— Men: United States vs.

Germany, 9 a.m.: Employ vs. Justenion, 9 a.m.: Norway vs.

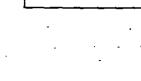
Sweden, 9 a.m.: Compde vs. Swifterland, 9 a.m.: Sweden. 9 a.m.; Canada vs. Switzerland. 9 a.m.; Switzerland vs. Norway, 7 p.m.; Sweden vs. Canada 7 Switzenana vs. Norway, / p.m.; sweepen vs. conve p.m.; Brition vs. Germany, 7 p.m.; Jepan vs. Un States, 7 p.m. Women: Sweden vs. Conada, 2 p. British vs. Germany, 2 p.m.; United Sigtes vs. Nove 2 p.m.; Denmark vs. Japan, 2 p.m. FIGURE SKATING, Nagaro— Men: shoft |

Noony Italy vs. France, 4 p.m.; Slova p.m. Women: China vs. Sweden, N vs. Japan, 4 p.m.; Finland vs. Cara : Stovakta vs. German den, Noon: United St Canada. 8 p.m. 

ed, Koruzowe, Woleneg Volaes sake 9 a.m.: Denmork vs. Novey, 9 a.m.: Bladd n. 9 a.m.: Canodo vs. Germony, 9 a.m.: Blan Unided Stotes, 2 p.m.: Japan vs. Genhardy worken vs. Switzerland, 2 p.m.: Norway vs. 2 p.m.: Neen and Women: Tie break II FIGURE SKATING, Nagano- Danchia Compi FIGURE BEATHER, NOGORO— DONCHE, CHOPSOY, 7 p.m.
NOT HOTHERY, Nogoro— Men: United States vi.
Sweden. 2-45 p.m.; Canada vs. Belsovi. 6-45 p.m.;
Fished vs. Czech Republic 2-45 p.m.; Kazakston vi.
Russia, 6-45 p.m.
LUGE, licuno— Doubles. 2 p.m.; Hakuba— 599
Individual 9-20 q.m.







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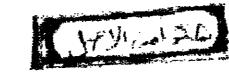
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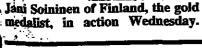
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# Japan's Hopes Fall As Finn Soars to Top

Soininen Outdistances Harada and Funaki

By Christopher Clarey New York Times Service

HAKUBA, Japan — The hill was normal; the stakes were not And anyone who was here on this sun-drenched morning will never forget the Japanese

About 45,000 fans waved them by the tens of thousands as they sat bunched together and full of hope on this national

SKIJUMPING

holiday. And amid that expanse of rising suns, the few Finnish and Austrian flags were black pebbles on a long stretch of white beach

The Japanese had every reason to be sangaine. Hadn't their jumpers dom-inated the World Cup circuit this season? Hadn't their jumpers practiced longer and better on these new and sophisticated hills than anyone else?

But ski jumping is no science. It is a high-wire version of roulette. And when Wednesday's last jumper, Japan's Masahiko Harada, landed a few precious meters too short, the flags were suddenly nowhere to be seen.

Jani Soininen of Finland had won the gold medal with a combined total of 234.5 points, and symmetry had not been served.

The last time the Japanese were host to the Olympics, in 1972 in Sapporo, they swept the medals in the normal hill competition -- their only sweep in Winter Olympic history, with Yukio Kasaya winning the gold.

That performance made ski jumping a major spectator sport in Japan, but the Japanese have been waiting ever since to win another Olympic gold in that sport.

They came agonizingly close Wednesday with their crown prince and prin-Persona a cess in attendance — the World Cup weight Meader, Kazuyoshi Funaki, won the silver medal — but the silence that greeted Harada's failure under pressure was elo-. and notice quent testimony to the size of the expectations in this island nation.

Harada had fed those expectations by taking the lead after the first round of ... E jumps with a poised and brilliant effort of 91.5 meters that, with style points, earned him 121 points overall. "That was maybe the perfect jump,"

he said. Soininen was in second with 118.5, the eventual bronze medalist, Andreas Widhoelzl of Austria, in third with 114.5 followed by Funaki and another Japanese jumper, Noriaki Kasai.

Another sweep was hardly unthink-



Soininen, who hails from the same town, Jyvaeskylae, as Finland's former Olympic star Matti Nykaenen, would have to wait. The five-member jury, which included Kasaya, the 1972 Sapporo hero, had decided before the final round that jumping would be halted if the wind exceeded two meters per second. As Soininen moved into position, one of the wind meters on the hill was blowing at four meters per second. A red light flashed.

He was forced to shimmy his way off the starting bench and recompose him-

He was seething, but when he finally jumped two minutes later, he calmly flew 89 meters and received enough style points to move ahead of Funaki by one point.
"I think it was unfair to me to make

me wait," Soininen said. According to a technical delegate of the International Skiing Federation. Torbjorn Yggeseth, the four-meter-per-second headwind would have given

Soininen an unfair advantage. As it turned out he did not need it. Harada was the last to jump. His nation was waiting anxiously, as it had been from a much longer distance in Lillehammer, Norway, when he was the final jumper in the Olympic team competition. On that day in Norway, needing only the most routine of jumps to assure Japan's gold medal, he launched

petition. Germany won the gold. He came back strongly last season, winning the world championship on the large hill. But this was a bigger oc-casion, and once again, the Olympics would prove too much for Harada.

himself prematurely and ended up re-

cording the shortest jump of the com-

As the 29-year-old flew down the runway, an enormous rumble of support welled up in the valley, and as he took flight the rumble evolved into a roar: a roar that faded away as soon as the fans saw where Harada had touched the earth. Japanese know their ski jumping. He had flown only 84.5 meters, and even though his style points were sensational, he would end up in fifth. If he had flown only three meters farther, he would have had the gold.

Believe it or not, the result was not enough to wipe the smile off Harada's disappointment.

His words were more revealing: "That last jump was so intense, so exciting, but fifth place is so depressing," he said. "I want to say I'm sorry to everybody."

KARUIZAWA, Japan — Mike

Harris of Canada, a golf professional for half of the year, skipped his rink to

a 10-6 victory over Germany on Wed-

CURLING

nesday to remain undefeated in the

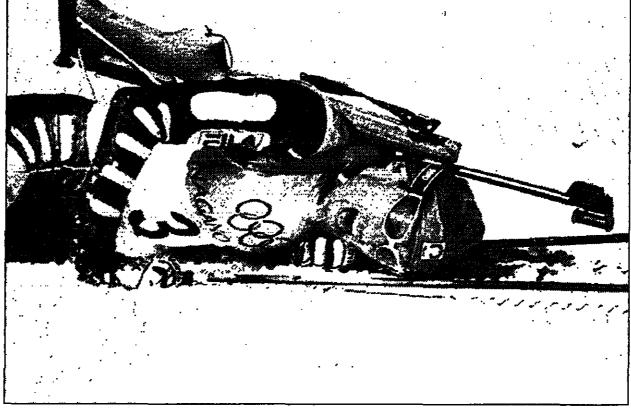
Harris, playing in his first major tournament, leads the standings with

Patrick Huerlimann of Switzerland,

Huerlimann picked up four shots in

men's curling competition.

who also has four victories.



Pier Alberto Carrara lying exhausted at the biathlon finishing line. Carrara narrowly missed the gold medal.

## Norwegian Sprints to a Surprise Finish

NOZAWA ONSEN, Japan - Halvard Hanevold of Norway made up for shaky shooting Wednesday with a final burst of skiing power to win the men's 20-kilometer individual biathlon race.

Hanevold, 46th in the event at the last Olympics, scored his surprise victory in 56 minutes, 16.4 seconds, collapsing at the finish line as he nudged out the Italian veteran Pier Alberto Carrara.

rara, 31, was the only perfect shooter of the day, hitting all 20 of his targets. But

he finished a shade behind at 56:21.9. Third was Alexei Aidarov, a rookie Olympian from Belarus at 6:46.5. Both

BIATHLON

he and Halvard missed one target in their fourth and last visit to the range. "I tried to race a stable race, at the

neering student from Trondheim, Norway, said, "I didn't think I could win, so I concentrated on securing the silver. But during the last kilometer I started hoping for gold and gave it all I had." Raphael Poirce of France, widely ex-

pected to win, finished 22d after missing two shots. The World Cup No. 1, Ricco Gross of Germany, came in sixth. The best showing among the powerful Russians was by the 1994 gold medalist. Sergei Tarasov, who placed 15th after

their top biathletes, Victor Maigourov, No. 2 in the World Cup, who was ill.

#### same speed, and save something for the four of his shots went astray. last stretch," Hanevold said. Hanevold, a 28-year-old civil engi-The Russians were without one of Skiing in his fourth Olympics, Car-

By Christopher Clarey
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — The last time Gunda Niemann-Stirnemann raced 3,000 meters at the Olympics, she failed to complete even three turns, hitting a lane marker with her skate and taking an uncharacteristic tumble.

Niemann went the distance Wednesday, and the result was a gold medal in the first women's speed skating race of these Games in an Olympic-record time of four minutes, 7.29 seconds, just 16hundredths of a second off the world

happened with my fall at the last Olympics." said Niemann, who won two golds in the 1992 Games but none in the three distance events in Norway in 1994. "I think that's very natural, but sport has

the last two ends after a tight game to

beat Tim Sommerville's American

Peter Lindholm of Sweden, the

In the women's competition, the

Sandra (the Curler) Schmirler of

world champion, beat Dougie Dry-

Swedish surgeon Elisabet Gustafson,

a two-time world champion, won four

Canada and Britain, skipped by

Kirsty Hays, are just behind the

Swedes, Canada beat Denmark, 9-5;

Britain beat the United States, 8-5.

out of four, thumping Japan, 12-6.

burgh's British rink, 7-5.

a lot to do with emotions. And my emotions were not a problem today."

Nor was her teammate and longtime rival, Claudia Pechstein, who set the

Clean Sweep by Germans and a Record

SPEED SKATING

world record in this event in December but who faded in the final lap and had to settle for silver in 4:08.47.

Anni Friesinger completed the German sweep of the medals by finishing the seven and a half laps in 4:09.44.

Friesinger, a 21-year-old from Inzell, was the second member of her family to compete in the women's Olympic Her mother Isnina finished 16th in 1976 when competing for Poland.

Kirstin Holum, the 17-year-old American whose mother, Dianne, was an Olympic gold medalist in 1972. here and racing at the Olympics."

skated in the same pairing with another of her role models. Niemann, and finished sixth in a world junior record of Holum's teammate Jennifer Rodrig-

uez surprised everyone, including herself, by beating her personal record by more than four seconds and setting a very temporary Olympic record of

Rodriguez, a 21-year-old from Miami, ended up finishing fourth.

"I never would have dreamed it, not this year at least," she said. "I was really nervous about getting into the top 16. I'm usually a fader. I don't know what happened or why. My legs just never gave out. They never had that extraordinary pain that I usually get.

"It must have been all the emotion. Last night, I was crying just for being



Gunda Niemann-Stirnemann racing ahead in the 3,000-meter event.

# Marijuana May Cost Canadian a **Gold Medal**

Compiled by Our Staff From Displacibles

NAGANO, Japan - The International Olympic Committee stripped Ross Rebagliati, a Canadian snow-boarder, of his gold medal Wednesday after he tested positive for marijuana. The medal was the first ever awarded in

Olympic snowboarding.
The Canadian Olympic Association appealed the International Olympic Committee's decision and the International Court for Arbitration in Sports held a hearing in a Nagano hotel Wednesday night. The court is expected to make a ruling on the appeal Thursday.

The international committee had voted earlier in the day to disqualify Rebagliati. The alternative was to give the snowboarder a stern warning, said Francois Carrard, the committee's director.

"They were fairly split on the issue." he said. "The IOC executive board took its decision by three votes to two, two voted to abstain and the president doesn't vote."

The medical board, which reports to the executive board, voted to disqualify,

The international committee has no specific threshold for marijuana use. It is banned even though it is not listed as a performance-enhancing substance.

"There's some discussion about marijuana," Carrard said. "I've been told that it could be a performanceenhancing drug because it appeases." Carrard said he could not remember

the drug ever appearing at the He said the committee had not yet

decided how to reallocate the medals if the expulsion holds up through appeal. At the competition Sunday, Thomas Prugger of Italy placed second. Ueli Kestenholz of Switzerland was third and Diter Krassnig of Austria fourth.

Only four positive drug tests have ever been recorded at the Winter Olympics: two at Innsbruck in 1976, one in Sarajevo in 1984 and one in Calgary in 1988.

According to Canada's Olympic association, Rebagliati said he had not used marijuana since April 1997.

In a statement read by a teammate at a news conference Wednesday afternoon, Rebagliati maintained his innocence.

'I've been training for 11 years to be the best snowboarder in the world." he said. "I've worked too hard to let this slip through my fingers. Carol Ann Letheren, the head of the

Canadian snowboarding association, said Rebagliati told officials the positive time that Ross spends in an environment where he is exposed to marijuana.

But although snowboarders acknowledge their sport's freewheeling reputation, they say illegal drug use is hardly the rule. "I wouldn't say that every other

snowboarder is out there puffing a joint," said Michael Wood, the Canadian snowboarding team's leader. "I don't think it's more prevalent in snowboarding than it is in any other sport." Rob Roy, a coach for the U.S. team,

said, "I think the public sort of looks at this and thinks, 'Ah, snowboarders are all wild and crazy.' That's not good.' Although the International Olympic Committee said there was no question that Rebagliati had used marijuana since arriving in Japan, the Nagano police said they would like to interview him.

A police spokesman said the snowboarder had informed them through the Canadian delegation that he would meet them and answer questions on Thursday. (WP, AP, Reuters)

#### OLYMPIC SCOREBOARD

MEDALS COUNTRY STANDINGS BIATHLON

Hoherd Honewold, Morway, 56:16.4 2 Pier Correro, Hely, 56:21.9. 1. Aleksel Akdarov, Belarus, 56:46.5. F I Ivan Masorik, Czech Republic, 57:30.7; 5. Miles Brids, Lehvic, 58:15.1; 6. Ricco Gross, ns St:15.4:7. Ote Bjoern \$16.8.8. Peter Sendel, Germany, 58:30.3: 9. zhenkov, Belarus, 58:31.3: 10. Dag den: Narway, 58:34.7; 11. Tomaz k. Slovenia, 58:55.5: 12. Ludwig Court, Stovenia, 58:55.5; 12. Ludwide, Austria, 58:56.5; 13. Vadim Sashuri

CURLING

any 7, Norway 6 Attnin & United States 5

FREESTYLESKIING

25.25; B. Stephane Rochon, Canodo, 25.01; 9. Kurne Lonsburgh, Sweden, 24.71; 10. Alex Wilson, United Stotes, 24.68; 11. Julien Reg-nier-Lofforgue, France, 24.64; 12. Fabrice Cupier, France, 24.22; 13. Gota Münz, Japon. 23.04; 14. Patrit Sundberg, Sweden, 23.00; 15.

Harris of Canada Is Undefeated

team by 7-2.

2. Tatjana Afitermayer, Germany, 24.62. 3. Kari Troa, Norway, 24.09. 1. Donna Weinbrecht, United States, 24.02: Donna Weinbrecht, United States, 24.02.
 Anne-Marie Pelchat, Canada, 23.95; 6.
 Minna Karhu, Finland, 23.53; 7. Alka Uemura, Japan, 23.75; 8. Lir McIndyre, United States, 23.72; 9. Sandira Schmitt, Germany, 22.45; 10. Ann Bothella, United States, 23.65; 22.67; 10. Ann Bonese, Varies street, 22.67; 12. Morfe Erfman, Sweden, 22.58; 13. Anja Bolberg, Denmark, 22.99; 14. Sora Kješin, Sweden, 21.52; 15. Lyudmila Dymchenkia, Russia, 21.02; 16. Tomil Bradley, Canada, 15.02.

Holst), (pp). 3rd Parlod—7, C.-D. Govetl Wickenhelser, S. Wilson). B, S.-C. Mor (T. Sjoelander). Shots on Goal—C.- 11-13-14—38. 5.- 1-6-4—11. Goalles—C.-L. Reddon

The state of the s 7, C.-H. Sang (L. Xv). B, C.-W. Guo (H. Liu). Shets on Gool—C.- 9-23-12—44. J.- 2-0-5—7. Goolfies—C.-G. Hong (7-6). J.-Y. Oda (44-38).

2 F.-K Hoenninen (K. Lehto, H. Nieminen), (pp), 2nd Period—3, U.S.- K. Bye (J. Schmidgell. 4. F.-H. Nieminen. (sh). 5. U.S.-T. Mounsey (K. Bye, S. Merz), (pp). 6, U.S.-G. Ullon (K. Bye). 3rd Period—None. Shots on God F. 6-10-6-22. U.S. 6-7-12-25 Godies-F.-T. Paputti (25-21), U.S.-S. Tuel-

2. Barbara 3:23.781. ilka Neuger, Austrin, 3-24 253

drea Tagwerker, Austria, 3:24.491; 6. Erin Warren, United States, 3:25.328; 7. Cararny United States, 3:25.475. Bettinny Country
United States, 3:25.475. Bettinny Country
Welssensteiner, Huly, 3:26.113. 10. Sonanrelter, Austria, 3:26.272. 11. Natalia
Lenko. Ultraine. 3:24.6.26. Myler, United States, 3:25,475; 8, Bet Jakuschenko, Ukraine, 3:24,548: 12. Najaise Obkircher, Italy., 326,677; 13. Anna Orlova, Latvio, 326,963; 14. liuta Galle, Latvia, 326,981; 15. Maria Jasencakova, Slovakia. 3:26.981; 15. Maria Jasencakova, Slovakia. 3:27.365; 16. Lika Ludan, Ukraine. 3:27.711; 17. Margarita Kilmenko, Russia, 3:27.751; 18. tring Goubbing, Russia, 3:28.115: 19. Angela Paul, New Zeoland, 3:28.466; 20. Helen Novikov, Estenia, 3:29.263; 21. Eriko Yamada, Japan, 3:29.423; 22. Jurita Snitka, Latvia 3:29.707; 23. Shino Yanagisawa. Jopan. 3:29.834; 24. Anne Abernathy, U.S. Virgin Islands, 3:30.707; 25. Yumle Kobayashi, Japan, 3:30,770; 26. Doris Preindl. Holy, 3:31,296; 27. Corine Dragon, Romania, 3:32,238; 28. Iginja

5 KIIN G WOMEN'S SUPER-G

 Picaba Street, United States, 1:18.02.
 Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 1:18.03. 3, Alexandro Meissnitzer, Austria, 1:18.09. 4, Regina Haeusi, Germany, 1:18.27: 5. Renate Goetschi, Austria, 1:18.32; 6. Kafja Seizinger, Germany, 1:18.44; 7. Martina Erit, Germany, 1:18.46; 8. Metanie Suchet, France. 1:18.51; 9. Stefanle Schuster, Austria. 1:18.53; 10. Hilde Gero, Germany, 1:18.5%; 11. Isolak Kostner, Haly, 1:18.62: 12. Varvara Zelenska-ja, Russia, 1:18.72: 13. Svetlana Gladishiva.

Russia, 1:18.82: 14, Carole Manfillet, France, 1:18.88: 15. Pernilla Wilberg, Sweden, 1:18.88: 16. Regime Cavagnoud, France, 1:18.91; 17. Kristine Kristinesen, Norway, 1:19.02: 18. Florence Massauda, France, 1:19.02: 19. Ingebarg Marken, Norway, 1:19.16: 20. Melanie Turgeon, Canada, 1:19-20; 21. Heidi Zur-briggen, Switzerland, 1:19-20; 22. Bibliana Perez, Noity, 1:19-27; 23. Barbara Merlin, Noity, 1:19-54; 24. Majca Suhndoke, Slovenio, 1:19-56; 25. Trude Gimle, Norway, 1:19-77; 26. Janka Kostelle, Craafia, 1:19-77; 27. Kate Pace Lindsoy, Canada, 1:19-89; 28. Katen Putzer, Italy, 1:20.16; 29. Kaltuleen Monal Umited States, 1:20.25; 30. Spela Brox Slovenia, 1:20.29; 31, Corinne Rey Bellet, Switzerland, 1:20.31:32, Jonna Me ska. 1:20.61; 34. Catherine Borghi, Switzer-land, 1:20.69; 35. Lucie Hrstkova, Czech Re-Jopan, 1:21.99; 37. Olesja Alleva, Russk 1:22.00; 38. Tappara Schoedier, Liechter Herzegoving, 1:94.48: 40. Manika Kovocs. Hungary, 1:24.77; 41. Carola Calello, Argenting, 1:25.08; 42. Simong Pastingru, Ro DNS; 43. Kirsten Clark, United States, DNF; 44. Yulia Krygina, Kazakstan, DNF.

SKIJUMPING

1. Jani Soininen, Firland. 234.5. 2. Kazuyoshi Funski, Japon. 233.5. 3. Andreas Wichnelst, Austria, 237.5. . Janne Ahonen, Finland, 231.5: 5. Ma roda Jopan, 228.5; 6. Primoz Paterka.

Slovenla. 223.0: 7. Neriaki Kasai, Japan. 227.5; 8. Kristian Brenderi, Norway, 215.5; 9. Hiraya Saita, Japan. 273.5; 10. Stefan Hompacher, Austria, 212.5; 11. Michal Dolezzi, Czech Republic, 211.0: 12. Reinhard Schwarzenberger, Austria. 211.0: 13. Dieter Thoma. Germany, 201.5; 15. Ani-Pekka Nikkala, Finland, 205.5; 16. Nicolas Dessum, France. 202.0; 17. Hansjoerg Jackle. Germany, 200.5: 18. Bruno Reufelot, Switzorland. 200.0: 19. Austrin Schwirt, Germany, 199.5: 20. Mika Lalitiren, Finland, 199.0; 21. Robert Mateja, Poland, 197.5; 22. Anatreas Goldberg-cr, Austria, 196.5: 23. Hengins Stensval, Nor-cr, Austria, 196.5: 23. Hengins Stensval, Nor-Matieja, Pakand, 197.5; 22. Andreas Goldberg-cr, Austria, 196.5; 23. Henning Stensrud, Nor-way, 193.6; 24. Framilsek Jez, Czech Republic, 192.5; 25. Arfur Khamidolih, Russia. 186.5; 24. Janoslav Sokala, Czech Republic, 188.5; 27. Alexander Volkov, Russia, 184.0; 28. Jokub Suchacek, Czech Republic, 183.5; 29. Sylvain Freibotz, Switzerland, 182.0; 30. Dmitriy Chrykov, Kazakstov, 177.0; 31. hvan Koziov, Harvien 36.2-33 Stending Efficación. Ukraine, 85.5:32, Stor desen, Norway, 82.5; 37. Jerome Goy, France, 82.0; 38. Blaz Vrhovník, Slovenia, 81.0; 39. Peter Zonta, Slovenia, 80.5; 40. Alexei Schibka, Belarus, 80.0; 41. Roar Ljoekelsoey, Norway, 80.0; 42. Nikolcii Petruchin, Russka, 79.5; 43. Alan Albarn, United States, 79.5; 44. Cache Colon United States, 79.5; 44. Casey Coloy, United States, 79.5; 45. Urban . Slovenia. 79.5: 46. Chol C. Heisig, Korea. 77.5: 47. Volodymyr Hlyvka, ne. 77.0: 48. Pavel Galduk, Kazakstan, VROUNE / / / At. POWE GROWN, RUZZISSAN, 76.5; 49, Randy Weber, United States, 74.5; 50. Aleksandr Skryvnsky, Belavus, 71.2; 51. Adam Malyaz, Pokand, 70.5; 52. Brenden Doron, United States, 69.5; 53, Chol J. Yong, South Korea, 69.0; 54. Valery Kobelev, Russia. South Korea, 49.0; 54. Valery Kobelev, Rus 68.0; 55. Kakhaber Tsakadza, Georgia, 6

Kolmakov, Kazakstan, 63.0; 59. Kim Hyun-ki, South Korea, 61.5; 60. Martin Mesik, Slovakia, 61.0; 61. Kim Heung-sao, South Korea, 59.5; 62. Krystian Diugopolski, Poland, 45.0.

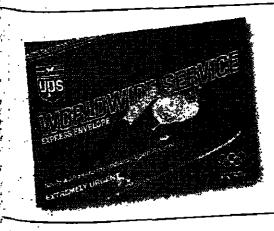
#### SPEED SKATING

WOMEN'S 3000 METERS

3. Anna Friesinger, Germany, 4:09.44. . Jennifer Rodriguez, United States, 4:11.64 Emese Hurryody, Austria, 4:12.01; 6. Kirs Prokasheva, Kazakstan, 4:14.23; 8, Anno marie Thomas, Netherlands, 4:14.38; 9. Carla Zijistra, Netherlands, 4:16.43; 10. Svetiana Bazhanava, Russia, 4:16.45; 13, Elena Reici Haly, 4:16.62; 12. Svetlana Vysa Anette Tonsberg, Norway, 4:19.24; 16. Tonny De Jong, Nethorlands, 4:19.54; 17. Chitaru Nazaki, Japan, 4:19.60; 18. Norko Munekata, Japan, 4:20,72: 19. Clindy Overland, Canada 4:21.10: 21. Susan Massitti, Canada, 4:21 & 22. Catherine Roney, United States, 4:22.55, 23. Bak Eun-bi, South Korea, 4:24.50; 24. Mi-Liepa, Canada, 4-27.99; 26. Song LL, China. 4:28.99; 27. Emeso Doorfler-Anfal, Austria

4:33.67; 28. Honda Luse, Latvia, 4:33.77; 29

Svettana Chepelnikova, Belanis, 4:36.97; 30.



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#### ART BUCHWALD

#### Blowing Tax Smoke

WASHINGTON — One on White House billboards. If the president hopes to have a bal-complish his goal, he might ge anced budget is by putting a \$1.50 tax on cigarettes — as well as levying

fines on tobacco compa-nies to get the United States

If Clinton has his way, Americans will have to smoke Buchwaid one trillion,

three hundred billion cigarettes just to break even. The question arises as to how many Americans must continue smoking—or, worse more they puff the larger the still, go back to smoking—to budget surplus will be. balance the budget.

the use of tobacco, particularly among teenagers.

need to take priority over poor health and misdemeanors. In order to raise revenue

from taxes, the government elated. "It is a social thing," an will have to kill all the no-OMB spokesman said. "For smoking regulations in re-gards to public places.

If the president hopes to accomplish his goal, he might get Chelsea to start smoking, and when he is seen publicly with Hillary he could light two cig-

arettes and hand one to her. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright might light up a cigar during the State of the Union address, and sample packs of cigarettes would be handed out to our armed forces on land, sea and in the air.

Clinton does not necessarily have to come out for smoking. But he will send a message to the nation that the budget surplus will be.
It's obvious the tobacco

companies are in a dither that their product was selected to It has been the policy of give the United States finan-this administration, as well as cial security, but a government this administration, as well as cial security, but a government previous ones, to discourage official said, "We had to tax either nicotine or arsenic." The president of one of the

But now the economic sal- largest tobacco companies vation of the country may said, "What is good for R.J. Reynolds is good for America. And this tax is no good." But the budget office was

several years now people have looked on smokers as pariahs. The Marlboro Man might appear on dollar bills and smoking on the sidewalk, you 32-cent postage stamps. Joe know he is doing it to pay for Camel could show up his mother's Social Security."

#### Four U.S. Newspapers Curb 'Doonesbury'

The Associated Press

KANSAS CTTY, Missouri - At least four newspapers have refused to run "Doonesbury" cartoons about accusations that President Clinton had sex with a White House intern. Cartoonist Garry Trudean's series shows a "scandal facilitator" talking with an elementary school class about the sex allegations.

"We didn't run it because I thought the language was offensive and inappropriate for the comics page," said Robert C. Gabordi, executive editor of The Herald-Dispatch of Huntington, West Virginia. Several other newspapers moved the panels from the comics to the editorial pages.

# In the New Europe, Brecht Is an Icon Again

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

BERLIN — When Bertolt Brecht returned here in 1948 from wartime exile in the United States, the legendary German playwright and stage director chose to live and work in East Berlin. He was not, in fact, a card-carrying Communist, but he described himself as Marxist.

And after his death in 1956 at the age of 58, his Berliner Ensemble theater company remained East Germany's principal cultural am-bassador. With the unification of Germany in 1990, Brecht's name seemed irrevocably linked to a repressive regime and a failed ide-

Yet now, with the 100th anniversary of his birth on Feb. 10, 1898, Brecht is being celebrated throughout Germany on a scale suggesting that his politics have already been forgiven. In addition to a speech honoring him by President Roman Herzog of Germany at the Berlin Academy of Arts, Brecht's birthplace in Augsburg has been turned into a museum, while his last residence in Berlin at Chausseestrasse 125 now contains his archives. Stamps have been issued, tours organized, a dozen new books on Brecht published and, across the country, his plays are being performed, accompanied by

At the omate 19th-century Theater am Schiffbauerdamm, home to the Berliner Ensemble since 1954, five Brecht plays are currently in repertory, including Wilson's production of "Flight Over the Ocean," the American director's first venture

lectures, workshops and exhibi-

On Monday night, the countdown to Brecht's birthday was accompanied by a lively concert of his songs, leading off with "The Ballad of Mack the Knife." Tuesday night, a performance of his mitment to what he called "epic 1930 play. "The Measures theater," to making andiences

many Nine-Zero." a film by Jean-Luc Godard, the most Brechtian of

movie directors. Outside Germany, the return of Brecht is occurring more slowly, with many theater directors still put off by both his politics and his often pessimistic plays. New produc-tions are nonetheless being presented, not only of the best-known plays written after he fled Hitler's Germany in 1933, like "Mother Courage and Her Children," "The Life of Galileo," "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" and "The Caucasian Chalk Circle," but also of earlier works, among them "The Threepenny Opera" and "The Rise and Fall of Mahagonny." both

with music by Kurt Weill.

If Brecht has not been forgotten, then, which Brecht is being re-membered? At different times during — and after — his life, he was variously considered European theater's most important playwright, director and theorist. Yet in all three categories his views often changed, suggesting he was more empirical than dogmatic. Today, Germany has placed him alongside Schiller as an icon, but what is his relevance to theater?

Certainly his plays continue to be performed and studied, with his midlife works considered by some experts among the best epic plays written in Europe since the 17th century, although at least three of his mistresses probably deserved to share credit for them.

lenged Stanislavsky's realism by in Augsburg in the summer of 1927 by Konrad Ressler. enon in Germany. "Young directors are doing early plays like 'St. "alienation effect" to remind the words of the British playwright mid-1970s was enormous, first Joan of the Stockyards, which in alienation effect" to remind audiences they were in a theater watching a re-enactment, is also present in modern theater, opera. apparent But what clearly fell out of fash-

ion in the Reaganite and Thatcherite 1980s was Brecht's strong com- er was a medium to talk about mitment to what he called "epic serious things." Taken," was followed by "Ger- think before feeling, to the idea, in theater from the mid-1950s to the and adapted both "Mother Cour- fresh light on the later pieces."



Brecht's stagecraft, which chal- Centennial book: One of a series of 32 studies of Bertolt Brecht semble, noted a similar phenom-

David Hare, "that plays have to be through the impact of the Berliner defined by people's social class Ensemble's early visits to London and by power relationships and not on theater technique, then through cinema and even advertising, alsimply by psychology." Or as Sir the way British directors came to beit at times absorbed to the point Richard Eyre, until recently artistic interpret Shakespelare and other that its provenance is not always. Theatre in London, put it: "He taught people that they could take time, and all theater work today at the theater seriously and that theat-

some point starts or returns to his statements and achievement," the British director Peter Brook wrote Brecht's influence on British in 1969. Hare, who has translated

age" and "The Life of Galileo," said, "Only when his influence as a director began to wane did we beBotto's Bath Act spaper

Rigina Spreads to the

Modions for Louinal

gin to rediscover his plays."

While Brecht has now joined the classical repertory in Britain and elsewhere, rising unemployment and social disenchantment have made him more topical in France

"In the 1960s, many French directors were politically engaged Brechtians, but they fell out of favor," said Stuart Seide, an Americans ican director who teaches at the National Conservatory of Dramatic Art in Paris. "But now the young are interested in a different Brecht. the early Brecht, the poetic Brecht, the Brecht before Marxism, the Brecht who had not found himself, who found the world to be a con-fusing place."

Stephane Braunschweig, a 33-

year-old French director whose production of Brecht's "In the Jungle of the Cities" is drawing young audiences to the Theatre de la Colline in Paris, said he chose this early work because "it speaks

more directly to my generation."

And he added: "People have an image of Brecht as serious and didactic theater, but his early work was pulsating, nervous, irreflexive. dynamic, almost surreal at times. I too want audiences to take a position, to react, to fight, so in this sense Brecht is natural material."

Holge Teschke, 39, the resident dramaturge at the Berliner Enthe 1920s dealt with unemployment and the social crisis," he said. These plays interest young directors more than the classics." Among these young directors is Brecht's own granddaughter, Jo-

hanna Schall. "I think the later pieces are a bit intimidating because there is such tradition and orthodoxy," Braunschweig said. "Perhaps we have to pass through the early pieces to cast



WELCOME TO BERLIN — Director Jim Sheridan at the Berlin Film Festival, where his "The Boxer" was the opening film on Wednesday.

#### **PEOPLE**

LONG-RUNNING feud between Zsa Zsa Gabor and Elke Sommer is back in court, this time over allegations that Sommer said, "All German men are pigs." Gabor's current and eighth husband, Frederick von Anhalt, is German. He claims Sommer made the offending comment in Los Angeles, and he complained about it three years ago on the German TV show "Goldmillion." Sommer - also German - denies saying it and has sued von Anhalt in the Bavarian state courts for a retraction. The case is the triad's second over mean-spirited comments. In 1993, a Los Angeles jury ordered Gabor and her husband to pay Sommer \$3.3 million in damages for describing her as a haggard Hollywood has-been. Why all the nastiness? Sommer Gabor had a large backside. A preliminary hearing in Nuremberg was continued until March 24 so statements from American witnesses can be translated into German.

Queen Elizabeth II abruptly fired her hairdresser after three years of service, and this week the stylist lost a claim of unfair dismissal from his oneday-a-week job. Paul Burgess, who had been paid £100 (\$160) a week to travel from his salon in Cheltenham, southwest England, to Buckingham

Palace to do the queen's hair, was given his marching orders in July last year. The hairdresser told an industrial tribunal of his shock at being fired. He said: "I was shocked to be dismissed like that so quickly. All I could think was my replacement would not see how I would cut the queen's hair and this would cause problems.'

Frank Sinatra remained in a Los Angeles hospital for a second day on Wednesday for what his spokesman and the hospital said were "nonemergency" tests. But the New York Post, quoting unidentified sources, reported that he had sympclaims it started because she once remarked that bladder cancer. The 82-year-old singer was admitted to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center early Tuesday, nearly 13 months after he suffered a heart attack. He also spent a night there for a check-up on Jan. 24.

Tom Hanks and Tim Allen will rocket back onto the big screen as the starring voices in a sequel to "Toy Story." Allen does the voice of Buzz Lightyear and Hanks is Woody in the computeranimated movie about toys that come to life. "Toy Story" earned \$360 million worldwide.

#### 'Seinfeld' Finale Ads

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — NBC is expected to charge a record price for commercial time during the final episode of the hit sitcom "Seinfeld" on March 14.

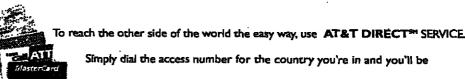
The finale of "Seinfeld" — long the linchpin of NBC's "Must-See TV" Thursday prime-time lineup is expected to draw a Super Bowl-sized audience, perhaps in the range of the 133.4 million Americans who watched the football game last month.

USA Today reported last week that NBC was considering asking advertisers to pay "north of \$1.5 million" for 30-second commercials. That would be something like three times the \$575,000 that NBC has charged for a 30-second spot in a regular episode during the 1997-98 season. Such a price would far exceed the previous record for commercial time charged for a TV program: an average \$1.3 million for each 30-second spot during Super Bowl XXXII on Jan. 25, also broadcast by NBC.

Then on Monday, the trade publications Advertising Age, Adweek and Mediaweek reported that NBC was seeking \$1.7 million to \$2 million for a 30-second commercial on the "Seinfeld" finale.

Larry Hoffner, president for television network sales, said NBC had not begun setting prices for the 10 minutes of national commercial time to be sold during the finale.





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